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THE TIMES

No. 65,170 SATURDAY JANUARY 21 1995

Reshuffle at top as envoy bows out

Our man in Brussels to replace Renwick in Washington

Sir Robin: wants to start new career

By Martin Ivens, and Martin Fletcher in Washington

SIR ROBIN RENWICK, British Ambassador in Washington and a veteran of the Thatcher era, is to leave the Foreign Office. He will be replaced by Sir John Kerr, at present UK permanent representative to the European Union.

Sir Robin, who as ambassador to South Africa from 1987 to 1991 was influential in ending apartheid, has been offered a senior post in the City and will return to Britain this summer after four years that have seen considerable strains on the Anglo-American relationship.

Diplomatic sources were swift to deny suggestions that he was leaving out of exasperation with the Clinton White House. They argued that after the relative cosiness of the Bush era he had relished the much greater challenge of dealing with the Clinton Administration. Sir Robin is 57; leaving now gives him time to pursue a new career, and Sir John time to find his feet before the 1996 presidential campaign.

Sir John's probable successor in Brussels will be Stephen Wall, a former private secretary to John Major who is now the ambassador in Lisbon. He is believed to have ghost-written an article by the Prime Minister in *The Economist* in 1993 that called for a looser European Community and upset many of Britain's EU partners.

Rob Young is expected to become chief clerk, effectively chief of personnel in the Foreign Office, in succession to Andrew Wood, who will probably replace Sir Brian Faull as ambassador in Moscow.

Sir Robin Renwick has been that rare bird in the Foreign Office, an interventionist ambassador. As one of the few diplomats also known to be admired by Margaret Thatcher as a "dry", he was not well liked in some quarters of the Foreign Office otherwise condemned by her for "rising damp". He was known to take a hard line towards the European Community and opposed sanctions on South Africa.

Mrs. Thatcher personally approved his posting to South Africa in 1987. His celebrated friendship with her chief foreign policy adviser, Sir Charles Powell — they joined the Foreign Office on the same day in 1962 and worked together on the Lancaster House negotiations on Rhodesian independence — ensured continued privileged access to No 10.

Sir John, by contrast, has become one of Mr Major's closest advisers on European policy. He will be leaving before British preparations are completed for the crucial 1996 Intergovernmental Conference to rework the Maastricht treaty, which he helped to negotiate. Sir John, a chain-smoker whose masterly diplomacy has led to his being nicknamed Machiavelli by some of his colleagues, is said to be more orthodox in his approach to Europe.

Sir Robin arrived in Washington in August 1991, when the so-called "Special Relationship" was still glowing from the Gulf War, but within 15 months Bill Clinton had defeated President Bush and relations between London and Washington deteriorated.

The new Administration took power with many of its senior members still angry at the Conservatives' apparent support for the Bush campaign. Mr Clinton exacerbated strains with Britain and other Nato allies with troops on the ground in Bosnia by pressing for a much more aggressive policy to end the conflict. Anglo-American relations reached their lowest ebb a year ago when Mr Clinton admitted the Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams to America despite the British Government's vehement opposition.

Sir Robin's decision to leave in fact coincides with a marked improvement. In Washington this week, Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, said he had found no big policy differences between the governments. The Clinton Administration is now strongly resisting congressional efforts unilaterally to end the arms embargo against Bosnia's Muslim government, and has agreed not to let Mr Adams raise funds in America until the IRA has laid down its arms.

Men in the News, page 2

IAN STEWART

Curtain up for rugby's record boot

Rob Andrew, who scored a world record 30 points when England crushed Canada 60-19 last month, demonstrated his impressive kicking form yesterday in training at Landsdowne Road, Dublin, before today's opening of the Five Nations' rugby championship. Ladbroke's are listing England as odds-on favourites for the title at 8-11, followed by France at 6-4, Wales at 9-1, Ireland 20-1 and Scotland 40-1. Today England visit Ireland, who have beaten them twice in the last two seasons, and France entertain Wales in Paris.

Match previews, pages 38,39,44

Two million to sit tests after NUT calls off boycott

By Ben Preston, Education Correspondent

ALMOST two million children aged seven, 11 and 14 will sit government tests without threat of disruption this summer after the biggest teaching union agreed to abandon its two-year boycott.

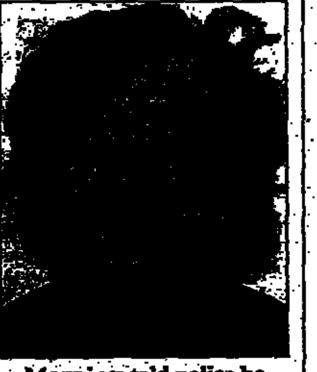
The National Union of Teachers voted 3-1 to conduct National Curriculum tests, marking the end of a revolt by the profession that at one point threatened to derail Conservative education reforms. The decision is a triumph for Gillian Shephard, who became Education Secretary in July with a brief to restore peace to classrooms. She welcomed the ballot result: "The winners will be our children, their schools and parents. They will be able to see clearly how children are matching up to the standards of the national curriculum. I look forward to all schools sitting the tests this summer."

The united front presented by the three main classroom unions against testing in 1993 forced big concessions from ministers. They included Sir Ron Dearing's review of the National Curriculum and its streamlining, introduction of external markers for tests at a cost of £30 million, and the abandonment of school league tables based on results at seven and 14.

The NUT, however, was left increasingly isolated after the other unions called off their action last year. Doug McAvoy, NUT general secretary, who supported the boycott until a sudden turnabout last month, said that yesterday's 49,422 to 16,712 vote was a resounding victory for the leadership.

The union's national executive decided to re-ballot members last month after Mr McAvoy said Mrs Shephard had made a further concession at a private meeting by allowing a review of tests to match that of the curriculum.

Leading article, page 19


Manning: told police he was wanted for questions

Phillip Manning arrested

PHILLIP Manning, who has been on the run for 27 days since his ex-wife was killed on Christmas day, was arrested yesterday when police investigated a fight between two men at Shoreditch, in the East End of London.

Manning, who was armed with a machete and a home-made nail bomb, apparently told police he was wanted for questioning. He was arrested on the day his ex-wife, Margaret Whitcombe, 42, who was shot with a sawn-off shotgun in the hall of her home in Abertillery, Gwent, was buried at Blaina, Gwent.

Drivers urged to defend mobile phone charges

By Kevin Eason, Motoring Correspondent

THE RAC yesterday advised drivers to challenge police who charged them with using a mobile telephone while driving.

Motoring organisations are logging cases in which motorists have been given fixed penalty fines of between £20 and £40 for inconsiderate driving because they were on the telephone while at the wheel. There is no law that prevents motorists from telephoning while driving. The RAC argues that police automatically act on the assumption that such drivers are not in control of their vehicles.

Now the motoring organisation wants Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, to rule on the issue because they believe that even motorists driving properly are being charged. The RAC is telling members to go to court in such cases.

Kevin Delaney, the RAC's head of traffic and safety, said: "We need a ruling from the Home Office so that motorists and the police know exactly where they stand at a time when the number of mobile telephones is proliferating."

If not served with a fixed penalty, motorists would have to be charged with driving without due care and attention or not having proper control of the vehicle. Both those charges would have to be contested in court and RAC executives say the Crown Prosecution Service would throw out such charges unless evidence of bad driving could be brought by the police.

Mr Delaney said: "The fact is that most motorists just say 'yes' to a fixed penalty rather than run the risk of a bigger fine and three penalty points on their licence."

Chief Inspector Roger Curtis, staff officer to the chairman of the Association of Chief Police Officers' traffic committee, said: "We would prefer telephones in cars to be hands-free devices as they are in our patrol cars. The Highway Code tells drivers to pull over if they want to use their telephones."

Car 95, special section

The rouble is casualty of war in Chechenia

From Richard Beeston in Moscow

THE ROUBLE fell to a record low of just under 4,000 to the US dollar yesterday because of growing fears that Russia's economic prospects for 1995 have been set back by the war in Chechenia.

On a day when the Kremlin leadership had hoped to be celebrating the capture of the Presidential Palace in Grozny, it was instead facing up to the consequences of what many regard as a hollow victory.

With fighting continuing, the economic impact of Russia's campaign emerged as potentially the most damaging aspect of the war for President Yeltsin.

Currency dealers said that the rouble had dropped to 3,947 against the dollar, below the previous low of October, when it fell to 3,926. That crash caused panic in Moscow's nascent financial institutions, and led to the removal of the Finance Minister and head of the Central Bank.

Fight goes on, page 12

Snow chaos in North

A MAN was killed as snow brought chaos to the North yesterday. Flood warnings were issued across the South, while rain and wind battered the country. William McCullough, 31, of Stranraer, died in a head-on collision at Castle Kennedy. The Medway burst its banks near Tonbridge, Kent, and much of the country faces heavy rain today, with winds up to gale force on the Channel coast..........Page 22

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Is this the dawning of the age of Ophiuchus?

By Joe Joseph

IF THE fashion for inducing births early to suit gynaecologists' social lives was not playing enough havoc in determining our authentic star signs, now we learn that the skies should be divided into 13 rather than 12 slices.

Acting on the advice of those august stargazers at the Royal Astronomical Society, we must all shift round a little to make room for this cuckoo in the calendar. We must get used to going to bed a Libra and waking up a Virgo. Yesterday we might have been serious stay-at-homes who planned for the future and never took financial risks; today we are dizzy spendthrifts who live only for the moment. And pity those "honest, jovial, optimistic" Sagittarians who must learn to call themselves Ophiuchans, without yet knowing the true Ophiuchan's traits.

Pascal thought the history of the world would have been different if Cleopatra's nose had been shorter. Imagine how much more different it might have been had our guiding stars been otherwise. Hitler, who was an Aries — a group, says the astrologer Julia Parker, with "deep resources of determination, although a determination to rush in regardless can cause problems" — is said to have consulted the stars. This may be why the Pope, a Taurean, damns reading horoscopes as a mortal sin.

When he was President, Ronald Reagan would not belch without consulting his astrologer, Joan Quigley. This discouraged those who worried that a president was driven by the planets, but heartened those who were grateful that at least someone was guiding policy in the White House. But Reagan, born on February 6, was an Aquarius. No longer. Now that Ophiuchus has muscled into the star charts, Reagan must start thinking of himself as a Capricorn.

But what of the damage already done? Nancy advised that a treaty on Intermediate Nuclear Forces be signed at a time blessed by Ronald's horoscope. And when he was inaugurated Governor of California, the ceremony was held at ten minutes past midnight, apparently on the advice of astrologers.

For years, British astrologers must have blushed when trying to marry Margaret Thatcher to the typical Libran traits of being indecisive, lazy and gullible. From now on the Baroness can switch to her new sign of Virgo: abracadabra! She can suddenly bask in the famous Virgoan virtues of meticulousness, reliability, diligence, intelligence, perfectionism and conservatism.

Then again, making the switch with her are Lenny Bruce and Yves Montand, who share her October 13 birthdate. Hardly Thatcher's most obvious fellow-travellers

Thatcher: from a Libran to a diligent Virgoan

Continued on page 3, col 1

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Classical Thatcherite underestimated influence of kids from Little Rock

Ruthless, rugged operator who fell foul of frustration

By Bruce Anderson

SIR ROBIN RENWICK'S decision to relinquish his post as Ambassador in Washington and to redirect his energies to the private sector is a comment on Mr Clinton's presidency as much as Sir Robin's desire for a change.

Sir Robin has many qualities, but above all he has a ruthless, sometimes rugged-edged clarity of purpose. He has, therefore, found the past couple of years of the Clinton regime constantly frustrating.

Even before his posting to Washington, Robin Renwick had earned himself a high place in the annals of post-war British diplomacy. He was Ambassador to South Africa at the most crucial period in that country's recent history. Robin Renwick helped and encouraged the Afrikaners to negotiate their way through a minefield; in the process, he eventually functioned virtually as a senior member of the South African cabinet. Robin Renwick always found it easy to do business with the South African Government, because he and they shared two important attributes: a love of rugby and an understanding of how power works.

It was all so different in Washington. Sir Robin began his career under George Bush and managed that relationship well. Between them, the new British Prime Minister and his Ambassador were able, courteously but decisively, to deal with the Secretary of State, Jim Baker, an Anglophobe and Germanophile. Then came Clinton.

In late 1992, I asked Robin Renwick whether the Tory party's limited but publicised help for the Bush campaign would poison relations between Mr Major and the incoming President. Sir Robin did not think so. It was true that the kids who had gone to Clinton headquarters at Little Rock with their sleeping bags would be upset, but that did not matter. They would not be seeing much of the President for the next four years; the grown-ups would take over.

That was a misjudgment. There were no grown-ups in the Clinton administration. The children merely moved their sleeping bags to the White House. For a man of Robin Renwick's restless temperament, this was insufferable.

When it was proposed that Gerry Adams should visit Washington, Sir Robin's reaction was as strong as the British Government's. He did not need to be told that the plan was an outrage. He took steps to prevent it happening, and secured agreement from the State Department that Adams would not be given a visa. Then someone overruled the State Department without giving Robin Renwick prior warning. His anger at such a snub has not subsided.

Sir Robin has always been a classically Thatcherite diplomat though he had no difficulty in translating his allegiance to John Major, who nicknamed him "the Governor General" during his days in South Africa. His personal politics are Tory; he is far too tough-minded to be anything else. But he has also cultivated excellent relations with the Labour Party.

Robin Renwick has always had a ruthless but stimulating attitude towards his staff. He demands the best and refuses to tolerate anything less, but rewards and promotes those who deliver it.

He has now decided to accept a big offer from the private sector. That is a sensible move on both sides. He will bring an implacable intelligence to the task of running things. If any of his future staff nourish the illusion that they will be dealing with some gentle, considerate diplomat, they ought quickly to check their redundancy arrangements.

Batting for a new nation: Sir Robin Renwick with Krish Mackerdhuj, vice-president of the United Cricket Board of South Africa, in 1991

Facing a challenge of Machiavellian proportions

Kerr: witty and as cunning as a cartload of monkeys

WHEN John Major became Foreign Secretary, he was wary of the diplomatic service. He was afraid he would encounter a pack of supercilious old Etonians, patronising and vague, who would attempt to coerce him into the wrong policies. He quickly learned better and came to value the officials he had inherited, among them the yet unknighted John Kerr, then in charge of the European desk at the FO, subsequently Ambassador to the EC, and now to be Sir Robin Renwick's replacement in Washington.

Sir John is a subtle, witty, chain-smoking Glaswegian: a contemporary of Norman Stone's Glasgow academy. Always light on his feet, he has a wonderful lucid intelligence and is as cunning as a cartload of monkeys. Mr Major quickly nicknamed him "Machiavelli".

He was an obvious choice to become Ambassador to the EEC. He has the sort of mind that can dance on the high note of detail, and played a key role in the Maastricht negotiations. Brussels is a technocrats' paradise; a place where politicians too desiccated to succeed in a domestic context, like Leon Brittan, can revive like desert after a rainstorm. John Kerr is a superb technocrat who always got on with Sir Leon and recently dissuaded him from resigning after he was thwarted by M Santer — but he has never sold his soul in the process.

His private views are unfallible. There are those who regard him as a dangerous Euro fanatic, ever alert for an opportunity to half-Nelson ministers in a federalist direction. Others would insist that he always accepts the Civil Service ethos and never forgets that he is the servant of his masters' instructions — while always reserving the right to remind them of the pressures of reality.

I am sure that the latter is the correct interpretation. John Kerr is not a man of strong political passions: he merely wants to make things work. He would not find it easy to do business with politicians much less clever than himself, but might find it more palatable than Sir Robin to mask his discontent. Fortunately, he has been as well served by his political masters as he is well-serving: his relations with Douglas Hurd are particularly warm.

He is — in a very strong field — probably the cleverest of all the current senior diplomats. If it is possible for anyone to do business with Mr Clinton, then John Kerr's blend of deviousness and charm is probably what is required. But he faces a challenge of Machiavellian proportions.

Waldegrave wins early veal review

William Waldegrave, the Agriculture Minister, announced last night that he had won agreement in Europe for an early review of the use of veal crates for rearing calves, a practice outlawed in Britain but legal on the Continent.

Legislation allowing veal crates is not due for review until October 1997 but Mr Waldegrave said the European Commission had agreed to his request to bring the date forward and it is likely to be held during this year. "When the review takes place I shall be urging my colleagues to ban this harsh and much disliked form of production," the Minister said.

At a meeting with other European agriculture ministers in Brussels on Monday, Mr Waldegrave will make clear the strength of feeling about animal welfare in Britain, but he will also reaffirm his determination to prevent disruption of what is still a lawful trade.

Valet 'passed on photos'

THE Prince of Wales's valet has admitted "surreptitiously" taking photographs at Highgrove and passing them to the the News of the World, the Prince's solicitors said. Ken Stronach "did not recognise statements attributed to him and categorically denied that the majority of the alleged incidents concerning the Prince . . . took place".

Bonn votes for beef ban

Germany's upper house of parliament voted yesterday in favour of a complete ban on imported British beef because of fears of "mad cow" disease. William Waldegrave, the Agriculture Minister, is expected to raise the matter with German officials when EU farm ministers meet in Brussels on Monday. The vote does not mean an immediate ban.

Blair's Clause Four tour

Tony Blair will begin a tour of the country next week to persuade Labour activists and trade unionists to back his attempts to rewrite Clause Four of the party's constitution. The Labour leader is determined to regain the initiative on updating the party's commitment to common ownership after concerted attempts by leftwingers to stop him.

Atom bomb jobs lost

Almost 850 job losses were announced at Atomic Weapons Establishment facilities in Essex, South Wales and Berkshire. The jobs, mainly among scientists and engineers linked with nuclear bomb making and servicing capability, will go over the next four years.

Fishermen open talks

Fishermen's leaders meet today to try to head off rebellion over the entry of Spanish vessels into British fishing grounds. Cornish fishermen, who want the Government to take British coastal waters back under national control, have called for port blockades and sit-ins.

Security van hijacked

Three armed men stole up to a million pounds from a security van in Southwark, southeast London yesterday. They claimed to have kidnapped a member of one of the security guard's family and told them to drive to a disused warehouse, where they moved the money to another van.

Letter boxes sealed

More than 11,000 postal workers in London were on strike yesterday after a dispute over working practices escalated. Pillar boxes were sealed and deliveries disrupted. The action went ahead despite an injunction against illegal sympathy strikes obtained by the Post Office.

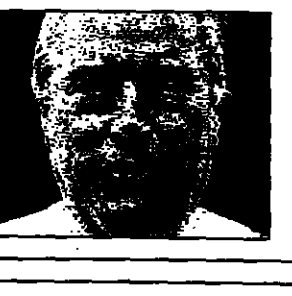
Prison governor jailed

Britain's first Asian prison governor, Jogendraneth Rajcoomar, was jailed for two years for fraudulently claiming £9,500 expenses from the Prison Service. He was found guilty last month at St Albans Crown Court of six counts of obtaining property by deception between 1990-91.

Rape case deadlock

An Old Bailey jury was discharged yesterday after failing to reach a verdict in the case of a 21-year-old Sudanese man accused of raping a fellow student, with whom he had had a year-long relationship, after a graduation ball at the Hilton Hotel, London. He faces a possible retrial.

Best Weekend reading



Brian MacArthur, left, the editor of *The Times Weekend* books pages, has been named Journalist of the Year by the Publishers' Publicity Circle for his role in extending the range of book reviewing.

Books, Weekend pages 14, 15

High Court gives Silcott new hope of an appeal

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

WINSTON SILCOTT was offered new hope yesterday of having his conviction for the murder of a boxer reviewed by the Home Secretary. The Home Office agreed to disclose material studied by Michael Howard when he decided against referring the case to the Court of Appeal a year ago.

Mr Howard will "reconsider afresh" his decision if he receives further representations from Silcott's lawyers. The Home Office is to pay the costs of Silcott's legal fight to challenge Mr Howard's decision.

Silcott, 34, was cleared by the Appeal Court in 1991 of the murder of PC Keith Blakelock during rioting on Broadwater Farm estate in Tottenham, north London, in 1985. When arrested in connection with PC Blakelock's death, Silcott was on bail accused of murdering Anthony Smith, 22, at a party. He denied murder but was convicted in 1988 and received a life sentence, which he is serving at Swaleside prison, Kent.

Silcott claims that Smith, a featherweight boxer who was leader of a gang called Yankee Posse, attacked him with a knife. He says he was frightened for his life and so accepted the offer of a knife to defend himself.

A Home Office spokeswoman said the documents to be disclosed were "material to the decision made by ministers in January 1994 not to refer the case back to the Court of Appeal". Yesterday's agreement at the High Court was reached six days before a judicial review was due to consider Mr Howard's decision not to refer the case to the Court of Appeal.

In a landmark ruling last year the High Court ruled that he must disclose all expert advice he receives before deciding whether to refer any alleged miscarriages of justice for appeal.

Adrian Clarke, Silcott's solicitor, criticised the delay in reconsidering the case. "This is not the way to deal with matters involving people's liberty. There has been so much delay in this case that it smacks of more than bureaucratic inertia," he said. Silcott's mother, Mary, said last night: "Thank God, we have waited so long."

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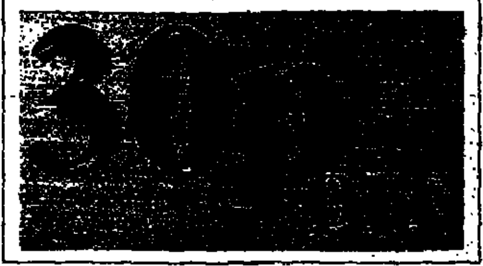

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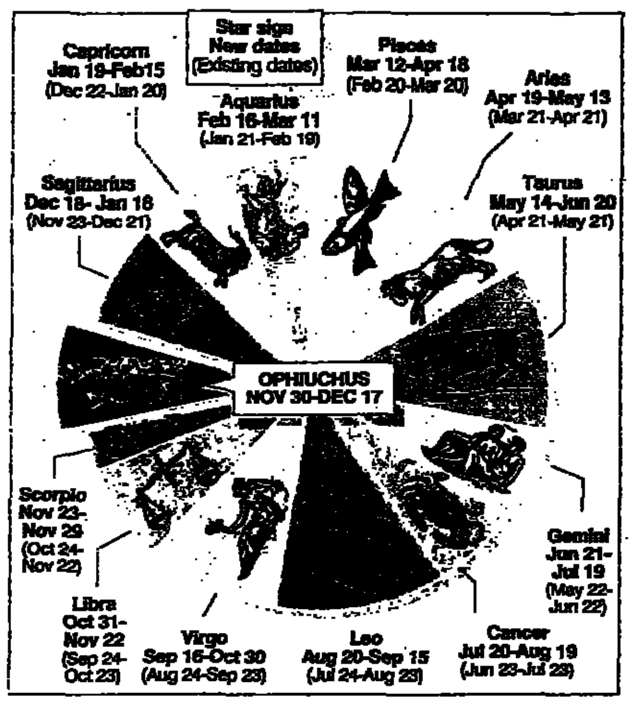
Stargazers clash over 13th sign of the zodiac

Shifting heavens upset astrological applecart

By Nigel Hawkes
Science Editor


Star sign
New dates
(Existing dates)
Capricorn Jan 19-Feb15 (Dec 22-Jan 20)
Aquarius Feb 16-Mar 11 (Jan 21-Feb 19)
Pisces Mar 12-Apr 18 (Feb 20-Mar 20)
Aries Apr 19-May 13 (Mar 21-Apr 21)
Taurus May 14-Jun 20 (Apr 21-May 21)
Gemini Jun 21-Jul 19 (May 22-Jun 22)
Cancer Jul 20-Aug 19 (Jun 23-Jul 23)
Leo Aug 20-Sep 15 (Jul 24-Aug 23)
Virgo Sep 16-Oct 30 (Aug 24-Sep 23)
Libra Oct 31-Nov 22 (Sep 24-Oct 23)
Scorpio Nov 23-Nov 29 (Oct 24-Nov 22)
Sagittarius Dec 18- Jan 18 (Nov 23-Dec 21)
OPHIUCHUS NOV 30-DEC 17

MILLIONS of people who believe in astrology have been labouring under the wrong star sign, according to the Royal Astronomical Society. Not only are there 13 signs of the zodiac rather than 12, but the dates governing each star are wrong, the heavens having shifted considerably since the zodiac was written more than 2,000 years ago.

Dr Jacqueline Mitten, press officer of the RAS, will put the cat among the astrological pigeons in the third programme of a new series on popular astronomy by the BBC, *Heavenly Bodies*. In fact, as she freely acknowledges, there is nothing new in the claims. Nor does it make the slightest difference to the credibility of astrology, which she derides.

"Astrology is a load of nonsense, it's hocus-pocus, we don't believe in it," she said yesterday. "I agreed to appear on *Heavenly Bodies* simply to point out that the signs of the zodiac used by astrologers don't even correspond with reality."

As astrology is not a science, this hardly matters. Astrologers could divide the sky into as many or as few signs as they wanted without affecting the issue. The conventional number is 12, roughly corresponding to 12 groups of stars visible to the naked eye and known as constellations. Those which have given their names to the signs of the zodiac lie on the ecliptic, the plane of the Earth's orbit around the Sun. This means that the path of the Sun across the sky, which follows the plane of the ecliptic, passes through the 12 constellations in turn.

There are many other constellations, 29 between the ecliptic and the north celestial pole, and 46 between the ecliptic and the south celestial pole. In addition, there is a 13th constellation on the ecliptic, Ophiuchus, which is not one of the zodiac signs.

Not surprisingly, Doris Chase Doane, president of the American Federation of Astrologers Inc, rejects the RSA findings. "I don't believe it," she said. "There are 12 signs in the zodiac. Ophiuchus might have to do with the constellations, but it has nothing to do with the zodiac. There's an entirely different viewpoint between the astronomical and the astrological."

The names of the zodiac signs are ancient. The Babylonian zodiac had 18 signs, but it is easier to divide the 360 degree circle into 12 divisions, and these were certainly established by about 500 BC. At the beginning, the dates for each sign were chosen to be the period during which the Sun appeared in the different constellations, but since then the direction of the Earth's axis has shifted.

This has caused the stars' position to shift in relation to our calendar, so that the dates attributed to each star sign are no longer correct. Again, there is nothing new in this: textbooks of astrology make it clear that the process, called the precession of the equinoxes, has detached the constellations from the dates conventionally attached to them.

To astrologers this makes no difference. Their horoscopes are cast on the basis of the relevant segment of the sky, not the constellations that are supposed to appear within them. But people who follow newspaper horoscopes may be surprised to discover that their birth dates do not correspond to the actual position of the "star sign" in the sky.

Star wars, page 1
Diary, page 18

MARTIN KEENE

Sophie Rhys-Jones, friend of Prince Edward, arriving for work in London on her 30th birthday yesterday

Stamp world shaken by dealer's fraud

By Marianne Curphey

THE cloistered world of philately has been shaken by the confession by a leading dealer that he masterminded a big stamp fraud.

Alan Wilson, a noted authority on philately, walked into his police station and told officers he had tampered with ordinary stamps to make them appear more rare and valuable.

Over ten years, the sophisticated fraud brought him around £100,000, but his sense of guilt eventually led him to try to trace each of his victims and repay them.

Fellow stamp dealers last night expressed amazement that such a formerly respected colleague could have escaped detection for so long. They described him as a well-dressed, quiet man.

Luton Crown Court heard that his deception involved dyeing stamps and changing the glue on the back or the varnish on the front to make them appear to be part of a limited print run.

Yesterday Wilson, 36, admitted four charges of obtaining money by deception and asked for 86 offences of forgery and deception to be taken into consideration.

Ebraham Mooncey, for the prosecution, told the court: "It is without doubt one of the major stamp frauds of modern times." He said Wilson, who ran a successful stamp trading business from his flat in Luton, Bedfordshire, sold a booklet of stamps for £1,250 which contained four 18 pence stamps.

Wilson's speciality was dealing in British Machin stamps — those portraying the Queen's head from the sculpture by Arnold Machin.

Mr Mooncey said: "On June 2, 1994 he walked into Luton police station and told police exactly how he had altered stamps, and how he produced excellent fakes. He admitted he had made about £100,000 from selling the fakes and has since compensated everyone he could trace."

One of the frauds perpetrated by Wilson was to removed a sheet of stamps from its modern red booklet and replaced it with other stamps. This made the booklet outwardly imperfect and so much more valuable. He also dipped stamps in a weak solution of ink to give them a blue effect and enhance their value.

Ann Cotcher, for the defence, said: "His career and reputation are in tatters. It is an extraordinary case. This was not done to make himself a millionaire.

"He never touched a penny of the money and has repaid everyone. He felt the need to unburden himself and gave every assistance to the police."

The case was adjourned. Wilson will be sentenced on Thursday.

Verdicts from Claire Rayner ("earth-shattering"), Maeve Binchy ("load of old bull"), Victoria Glendinning ("delighted") and Lord Healey ("brings out the animal")

Unhappy birthday for Aquarian become a goat

By Robin Young
and Michael Dynes

THE news that there should be a thirteenth sign of the zodiac, changing many people's star signs, led to considerable confusion about the likely consequences. The novelist and agony aunt Claire Rayner, who would change from Aquarius to Capricorn, said: "My birthday is the day after tomorrow, and now for a birthday present they are making me a goat. This is earth-shattering, even if I do think the whole thing is a load of codswallop."

Maeve Binchy, the novelist, who would go from Gemini to Taurus, said: "I have been absolutely delighted by the news that the whole astrology business has been exposed. When I was young and needed money I wrote an astrology column myself for a year. Every week I gave myself, as a Gemini, a very good fortune indeed.

"I gave the man I loved, ill-advisedly as it turned out, weekly hints that he should settle down, and I gave my rival in love weekly instructions that it was time to go away on a long journey. All over the country people were reading this every week.

"But now it seems that I have gone from being two-faced Gemini to a load of old bull, as a Taurus. I never read astrology columns, but it just appals me the number of people who do." Victoria Glendinning, Trollope's biographer, who used to write an astrology column in *The Sunday Telegraph* under the pseudonym of Madame Mimm, was delighted with her change. "My birthday is April 23, so I was a Taurus. Now I should be Aries, which is quite good news. I think Aries is much more interesting, and I am sure the change will influence my writing in future, obviously for the better."

Another biographer, Lady Healey, was delighted with the stellar reformation. "I was Gemini but now I am told I should be Taurus, which sounds much more lively and aggressive. I do read star columns for amusement because, though the things could be written to suit absolutely anybody, they do often try to give quite good advice."

Her husband, the former Labour Chancellor Lord Healey, ceases to be Virgo and becomes a lion. "With Leo and Taurus, the changes certainly seem to have brought out the animal in us but I trust we shall continue to live peacably together."

One of the few astronomers to take astrology seriously, Dr Percy Seymour, senior lecturer in astronomy at the Plymouth University and author of *Astrology: the Evidence of Science*, said: "My researches suggest there may be a germ of truth in the suggestion that planetary alignments can influence the magnetic field of the sun and sunspot activity, and thus influence the geomagnetic field on Earth.

"But even if there is some validity in the observations of the ancient astrologers, there is none at all in newspaper star sign columns, so it does not matter what happens to them."

Ron Gwynn, a professional astrologer, said the new sign Ophiuchus would make no difference to astologers who use the tropical zodiac.

"Our astrology is not based on fixed star contellations but on the annual passage of the sun in relation to the equator."

OPHIUCHUSITES

Here are 12 people born under a wandering star who now find themselves in the House of Ophiuchus:

José Carreras, one of The Three Tenors
Jean-Luc Godard, French film director
Daryl Hannah, film star and astrology follower
Gary Lineker, footballer
Lord Longford, Labour peer
Bette Midler, singer
Little Richard, rock 'n' roll star
A L Rowse, historian
Monika Seles, tennis player
Mel Smith, comedian
Gianni Versace, fashion designer
Andy Williams, singer

Age of Ophiuchus in sight

Continued from page 1

into Virgo. Even worse, awaiting this threesome in Virgo is Joseph Goebbels (October 29), the Nazi propaganda chief, whose former fellow Scorpios will no doubt be glad to see the back of him.

Also making an improbable but pretty progression from their former star sign of Aries to their new one of Pisces are *the threesome of* Helmut Kohl, Doris Day and Eddie Murphy, who do not, at first sight, share much beyond their joint birthdate of April 3.

Reagan was hardly a lone starman in *Washington. In* the early 1980s the pukka *Washington Post* carried a weekly astrological feature highlighting the ups and downs in the star charts of such Georgetown heavyweights as Henry Kissinger. The author was Svetlana Godilla, who was astrologer to Ben Bradlee, the *Post's* editor at the time.

After retiring from the CIA, Miles Copeland alleged that *his former employers* regularly faked astrological charts and passed them to leaders in Africa and Asia, prodding Jupiter into Saturn and messing about with Venus.

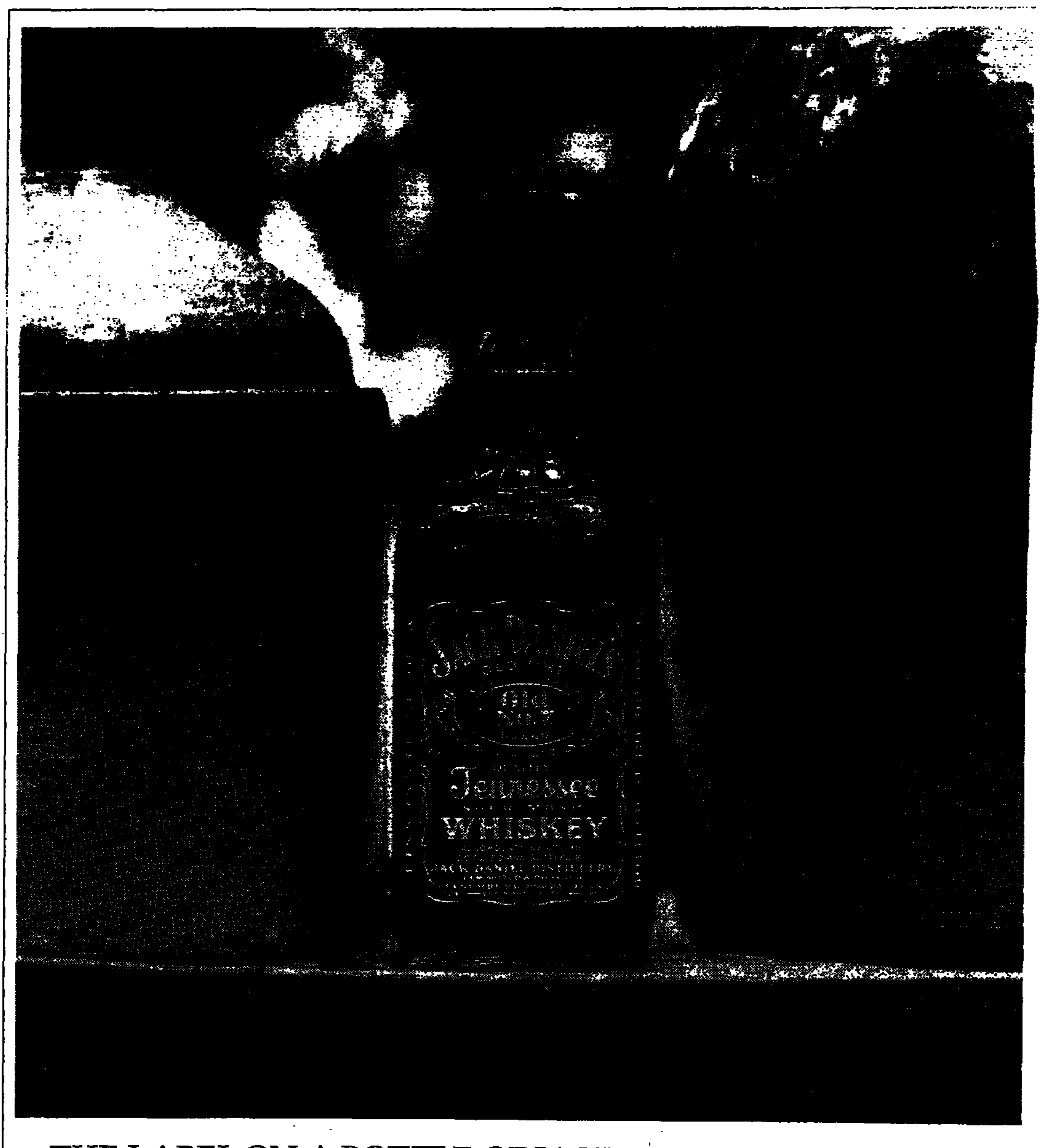
Copeland claimed that in the 1950s and 1960s the CIA's improbably titled "Cosmic Operations Section" regularly sought to bend the contours of world history. Kwame Nkrumah, for example, the first *President of Ghana, acted on* the advice of a covert CIA astrologer. Would the presence of Ophiuchus in those days have made the Cold War chillier, or would it have accelerated a thaw?

Hollywood is predictably seething with stargazers. The actress Demi Moore consults her astrologer before accepting a role or catching a plane. Madonna sought galactic guidance when trying to conceive with Sean Penn. *Sylvester* Stallone did too, though with his own wife, not with Sean Penn. Princess Grace of Monaco and Marlene Dietrich were cosmic believers.

But even the old star signs stretched our credulity in the binding influence of the stars: André Previn, the conductor, and Paul Daniels, the magician, have long shared the same birthday.

They may both wave a sort of wand, but has Previn ever produced a rabbit from a tuba during a dull bit of Stockhausen, or plucked an ace of spades from behind the ear of the first violin?

Diary, page 18



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هكذا من الأهرام

صكتا من الاصل

Louise Jones: beaten over head with stake

Children kept in after new attack

By Stewart Tendler

CHILDREN at a Cardiff school were advised to stay within its grounds during their lunch break and to travel home in groups yesterday after the murder of a pupil aged 15 on Wednesday.

South Wales police confirmed that Claire Hood died during a sex attack in woods 400 yards from her home on St Mellons estate on the outskirts of the city, and appealed for information from her friends. They say she may have known her attacker and believe she was planning to play truant from Rumney High School when she disappeared during the lunch hour. The cause of death is not yet known.

Yesterday Louise Jones, the 13-year-old girl who was attacked on the same afternoon that Claire's partially clothed body was found, said she had been taking a short cut. "I knew from the look in his eyes I was in trouble," she said. "It was a strange, dirty look and the next thing I knew he had a fencing stake in his hand.

"I was terrified and everything seemed to go into slow motion. He didn't say anything but I saw the piece of wood swinging through the air towards my head." The man then hit Louise on the head. "His hand came around the side of my head as if to put it over my mouth to stop my screams," she said. He ran away when she struggled.

Police have not ruled out a link between the attacks.

'He placed greater value on his escape than on the life of a police officer'

Raider who killed police sergeant is jailed for life

By Andrew Pierce

A MAN who stabbed a police sergeant to death during a bungled post office raid was jailed for life yesterday with a recommendation that he serve a minimum 25 years. Robert Eades stabbed Sgt Derek Robertson six times with a "black widow" double-bladed dagger in what the judge, Mr Justice Auld, called "a savage and wanton murder".

The Old Bailey was told that Eades, 32, had a chance to run away from the scene of the foiled raid in south London. But he chose to confront the 39-year-old policeman who was married only six weeks earlier to the mother of his two children. The sergeant was armed only with a truncheon.

Eades, of New Addington, Surrey, stabbed the policeman repeatedly in the body as they wrestled on the ground at the back of the local post office. Mr Justice Auld said: "Within seconds he was dying, slain in a frenzy of stabbing by a robber who placed greater value on his escape than on the life of a police officer."

Sgt Robertson's widow, Christine, said after leaving court: "On Derek's behalf I thank all the people who have given his children and I so much love, encouragement and support during the last year. Life would not have been the same without them. Me and the children, Sacha and Frazer, loved Derek very much and that love will never die."

Eades's accomplices, brothers Christopher 39, and Terry Snelling, 32, of New Addington, were cleared of murder but convicted of manslaughter and were jailed for 12 years. They both knew that Eades was carrying the knife during the robbery last February.

As the trio, who wore balaclavas during the raid, were led to the cells the judge paid tribute to the bravery of suburban police officers and in particular to Sgt Robertson who had 20 years' service in the Metropolitan Police. "It was the daily lot of a policeman, almost always unarmed, to be called to an incident with no idea of what awaited him," he said. "Frequently it is danger and sometimes death. This was just such a call for Sgt Robertson."

Sgt Robertson's widow sat at the back of the court as sentence was passed. She heard the judge describe her husband as "a fine police officer". He also commended the bravery of sub-postmaster John Brittain, 57, who remained calm throughout his ordeal at the hands of the robbers and tried to find a weapon to go to Sgt Robertson's aid.

The jury reached unanimous verdicts. The three accused admitted conspiracy to rob and holding Mr Brittain hostage at the outset of the trial, but denied murder.

Eades, described by his counsel, Anthony Berry, QC, as a small-time criminal "out of his league", planned the robbery to solve his financial difficulties. He and the Snellings decided he should be armed and he selected a knife from the armoury he kept at his home.

Sgt Robertson: married for only six weeks

DES JENSON

Sgt Robertson's widow, Christine: "We loved him and that will never die"

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Shadow of evil

❛Latif Yahia spat in the mirror when he saw himself for the first time after plastic surgery. But it was too late. He now resembled Uday Hussein, the eldest son of the Iraqi president.

Uday (left) and Yahia

For the next four years he was the "double" of Saddam's evil son, a role which included impersonating him at the Kuwaiti front during the Gulf War. One of the few people with whom Yahia could relax was the man who was Saddam's double . . .❜

The amazing story of the men who doubled for Saddam Hussein and his son — News Review, The Sunday Times tomorrow

BMA denies Tory bias as ex-chief decries health reforms

By Jeremy Laurance
Health Services Correspondent

THE British Medical Association rejected yesterday a call by its former chairman for the profession to abandon its traditional allegiance to the Conservative Party.

Dr Jeremy Lee Potter, chairman from 1990 to 1993 and a life-long Tory voter, wrote in the association's *News Review* that the party represented a greater threat to the NHS than Labour. Those who work in the NHS "have been let down by politicians in the grip of political dogma", he said. Yesterday he announced that he was retiring early from his post as a consultant haematologist in Poole, Dorset, because of his growing frustration at the Government's intransigence over the NHS reforms.

A BMA spokesman dismissed the suggestion that the association was tied to any political party. "We back most of what Dr Lee Potter says but we are an organisation of 100,000 members and we don't have political allegiances," he said.

But the present BMA chairman, Dr Sandy Macara, gave stronger support to Dr Lee Potter. Dr Macara, a consultant senior lecturer in public health medicine at Bristol University, said: "The NHS as we know it, that's to say a national health service which tries to maintain high standards for everyone wherever they happen to live and whatever service they need, is about to be broken up. The Government seems utterly determined to do it. The Treasury is bribing us by insisting that management be given the power to pay us exactly what they like — and that will effectively split up the health service into four or five hundred businesses."

Gerald Malone, the Health Minister, dismissed Dr Lee Potter's article as "wrong in general and wrong in detail". He denied that ministers were motivated by political dogma over health.

"The whole point about the new NHS and the trust system is that doctors are now involved in management in a far more direct way than they were before. They're far more involved in the treatment of patients and the shaping of services than they were under the old demand-style NHS that was led centrally."

He said the Poole NHS trust, where Dr Lee Potter works, was thriving. The number of in-patients treated had risen 10 per cent in two years and the number of consultants had increased by a fifth in a year.

"That doesn't indicate to me that the service is finding it difficult to expand to meet the needs of patients. The truth of the matter is that Dr Lee Potter seems to portray a service that no one who is an outside observer really recognises any more," he said.

As Dr Lee Potter arrived for work at Poole General Hospital yesterday, he said: "My phone has been ringing non-stop with all sorts of people congratulating me on what I have said. An awful lot of consultants are getting out of the system as soon as they possibly can.

"They all seem to agree with the sentiment that there was a time when doctors and nurses treated patients, and everybody else helped. But sadly this does not seem to be the case anymore. There's a steady drip, drip, drip of politicians in the grip of dogma who are continuing to impose their ideas on the health service — despite what the people who actually work in the health service are saying to them. They are ignoring the nurses, they are ignoring the doctors."

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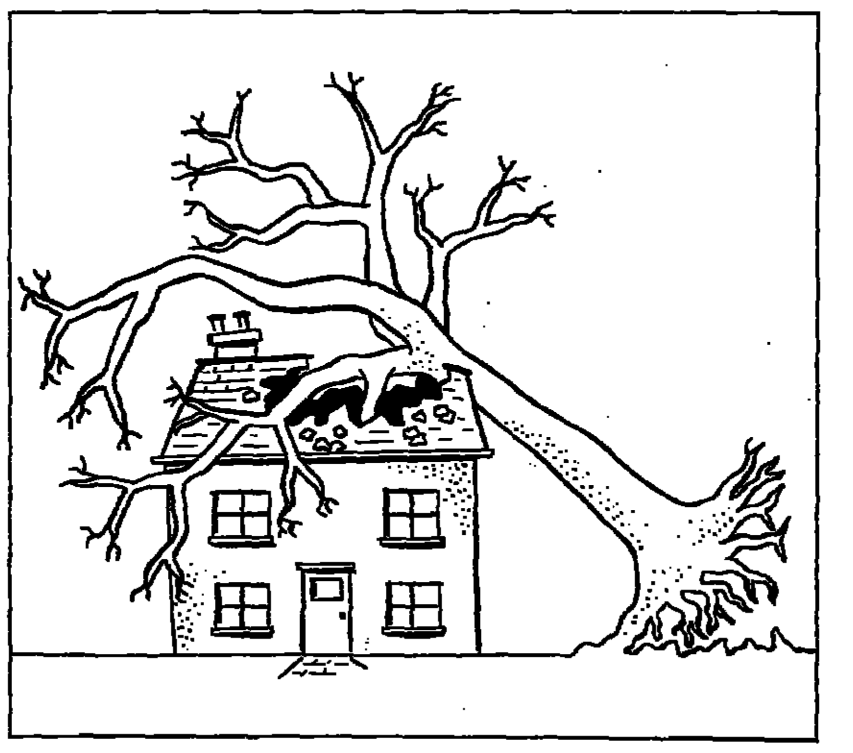

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VJ-Day commemoration

Veterans condemn official veto of memorial service

■ Soldiers who wanted to honour dead comrades and give thanks for their survival feel they have been let down by diplomacy and bureaucracy, Andrew Pierce writes

SURVIVORS of Japanese prisoner of war camps have been denied their own commemorative service to mark VJ-Day. Veterans had hoped to fill St Paul's Cathedral on a day close to August 15, the date the war ended, but the Ministry of Defence objected because it was too close to the Government's official commemoration on August 19-20.

Lord Braine of Wheatley, *president of the Japanese Labour Camp Survivors Association*, said last night: "To think what they went through; it is the least they deserve. They have every right to be upset."

Lord Braine, a former Father of the House of Commons, who served on the personal staff of Lord Mountbatten, the Supreme Allied Commander in southeast Asia at the time of the surrender, has been a champion of the veterans since he saw some of the camps. "A service of commemoration would have helped to soothe some of the terrible psychological wounds they suffered. It would have *meant that the young generation* would not be allowed to forget," he said.

About 50,000 British POWs were held in Japanese camps and at least a quarter died in captivity. The association has 14,000 members, many of whom still suffer from medical problems.

The Duke of Edinburgh, patron of the Burma Star Association, was to have been invited to attend the service with the Queen and the Prime Minister. The veterans had hoped to put up loudspeakers outside the cathedral and to have the service broadcast on television and radio.

Arthur Titherington, secretary of the association, made a personal appeal to Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary and his local MP, last week. "I don't see how they can snub the very people who were there at the end of the war," he said. Mr Titherington, from Witney, Oxfordshire, who served in the Royal Signals, added: "We have not been given a reasonable explanation. We wanted *members of* the Royal Family and the Cabinet to be there with us to make a proper official recognition of *the sacrifice of the* people who did not come back.

"We want a suitably dignified occasion for the people who died in the Far East camps, who survived them, the Burma veterans, and civilian internees. I can't understand why we have been turned down."

Sid Tavender, 76, a vice-president of the association, said: "We suspect it was blocked by the Ministry of Defence because the Government is so sensitive about upsetting the Japanese. But *what about upsetting us?* We could have had at least 1,000 veterans in the cathedral."

Mr Tavender, from Cheltenham, worked for three years on the Burma-Thailand railway after being captured while working for British intelligence in Singapore. He said: "Only people who were there could understand the harrowing conditions we had to endure, which still cause nightmares today: the beatings, the humiliations and the torture. It is a bond we all share, which is why we wanted to come together in our own service, give thanks for those of us who survived, and pray for those we left behind."

Brigadier Robert Acworth, Registrar of St Paul's Cathedral, said that the veterans had been offered an alternative date in October. "August is a *difficult month* at the best of times. The choir is away. The Ministry of Defence advised us against because it is organising an all-embracing VJ-Day celebration in London on August 19. Neither *we nor the ministry wanted to* do anything which would preempt that celebration."

A spokesman for the World War Two Commemorations Team, set up by the Government, said that the official events would accommodate everybody. "The weekend of August 19-20 has been chosen to mark VJ Day. It will be a day for veterans from all over the Commonwealth."

Letters, page 19

Survivors of the Far East campaign, including Sid Tavender, top, and Arthur Titherington, in the 1940s and today, had hoped to have royalty at their service

Surgery row nurse faces hearing

By Jeremy Laurance

THE nurse said to have removed a patient's appendix during a hospital operation appeared before a disciplinary panel yesterday.

Valerie Tomlinson, 53, a theatre sister, was suspended after allegedly carrying out the operation at Treliske hospital, Truro, Cornwall, on December 19. Her hearing was before a senior consultant and senior nurse from Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust.

She was represented by Howard Catton, Royal College of Nursing regional officer, who said that the surgeon in charge, Tahir Bhatti, had supervised Mrs Tomlinson throughout the procedure. The incident had been "incredibly traumatic" and she was keen to put the full facts to the hearing.

Mrs Tomlinson, of St Wenn, Cornwall, has been a nurse for 16 years. A decision on her future is expected next week.

After the allegation was made the trust said that the patient appeared to be "quite happy" about his treatment.

Thirty Manchester United new blue and white strips to be won, in *Times Sport* on **Monday**

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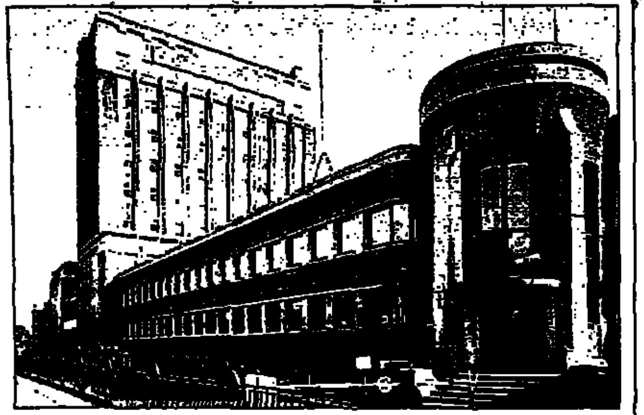

Smithkline Beecham House: a new lease of life

Listed Art Deco building beats demolition men

By John Young

ENGLISH Heritage has refused to grant listed building consent for the demolition of Smithkline Beecham House on the Great West Road in Brentford, west London. An application for a new development on the site had been submitted by the Beecham Group and British Land.

The building, designed in the Art Deco style, was built between 1937 and 1942 by Wallis, Gilbert and Partners, architects of the Hoover Building on Western Avenue, now a supermarket, and the former Firestone factory, also on the Great West Road.

It was the abrupt demolition of the Firestone factory in 1980 that prompted concern for the future of a collection of Art Deco industrial buildings erected in the 1930s and the early years of the Second World War in what were then the western fringes of the capital.

Smithkline Beecham House was designed for the manufacture of aircraft components, and its wartime role is symbolised by the giant sculpture of an airman with eagle's wings. It was listed Grade II in 1990.

Jocelyn Stevens, chairman of English Heritage, said yesterday: "We are not prepared to consider the demolition of a Grade II listed building on the basis of an outline application. If the applicants are unable to incorporate the listed building in their plans, they will have to prove that demolition is absolutely necessary."

The Twentieth Century Society, which campaigned to save the building, said yesterday that it had received tremendous public support. The building was of national importance in terms of architectural quality, and it hoped the company would now be prepared to promote a more realistic and responsible alternative development.

British Land yesterday declined to comment on the decision.

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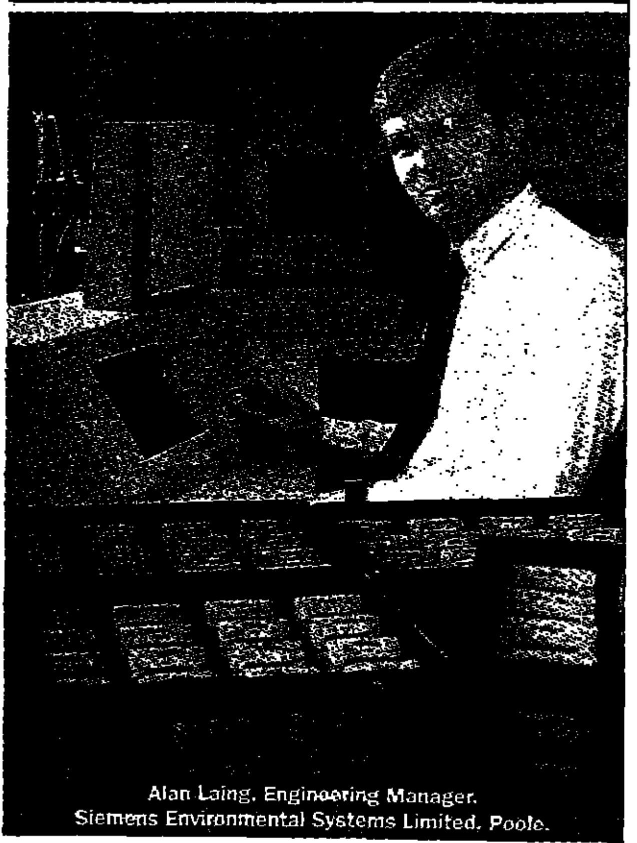

Alan Laing, Engineering Manager, Siemens Environmental Systems Limited, Poole.

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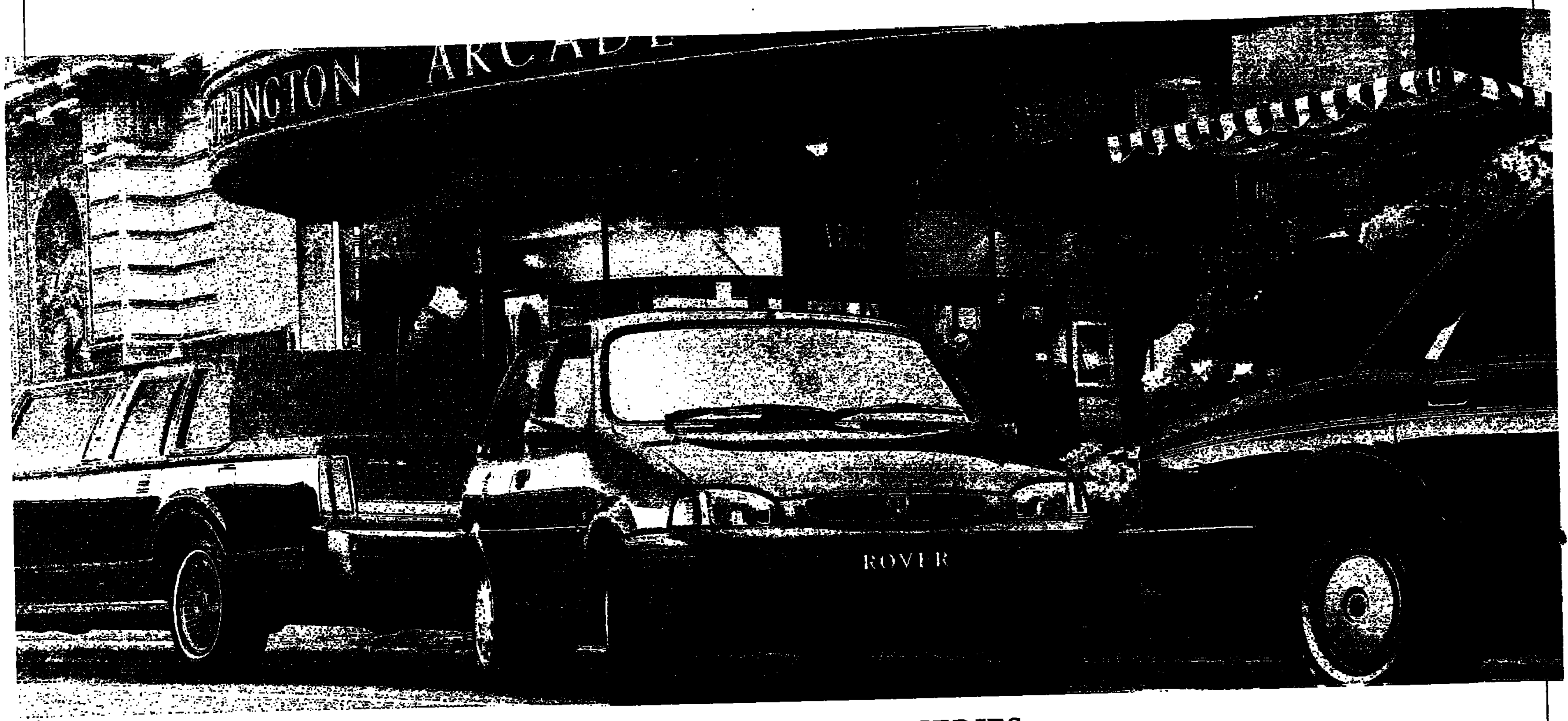

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Ruthle IR
pair jailed f
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bomb campa

'Hopefully, this will be one of the last republican cases to come before an English court'

'Ruthless' IRA pair jailed for planning new bomb campaign

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Correspondent

TWO IRA terrorists who were to spearhead a renewed mainland bombing campaign — including an attack on the City of London — after a series of arrests were jailed for 25 and 20 years yesterday.

Robert Fryers, 44, from New Barnsley, West Belfast, was jailed for 25 years and Hugh Jack, 37, from New Sauchie, Central, Scotland, for 20 years after they were found guilty of conspiring to cause explosions.

Armed officers arrested Fryers in July 1993 as he stood at a bus stop near Staples Corner, northwest London, with a bomb in a holdall.

Sentencing the men at the Central Criminal Court, Mrs Justice Ebsworth told them: "You are both shown to be ruthless and remorseless men, prepared to wreak havoc in people's lives as well as economic destruction." She said they had been willing to cause injury or death in the names of their cause.

Before he was sentenced, Fryers told the court: "I am not guilty of any criminal offence. When I came to this country I believed what I was doing was right and still believe that."

What Fryers did not know was that his terrorist mission had been penetrated by the security services, who were monitoring his every move. They even watched as a crowd of women gathered round him in the bar of a hotel near the M1 in Hertfordshire, believing him to be nothing more than a convivial, middle-aged Ulsterman a long way from home. Late into the night Fryers, increasingly drunk, serenaded his companions with Irish ballads.

MI5 surveillance teams had tailed Fryers, who they knew to be a senior terrorist organiser, from one end of the country to the other. They looked on as he let off steam while waiting to pick up terrorist supplies.

Within a week, Fryers would be standing at the bus stop heading for the City with an incendiary blast bomb made with Semtex high explosive and petrol. The judge said: "It was a device which was of truly devastating capacity for causing death, serious injury and destruction. On explosion, the debris or shrapnel could be thrown hundreds of metres." The petrol meant "there could have been a fireball and those in range would have no chance of escaping harm, injury or possible death".

The device was of a type never seen on the mainland before, and the bomber's target remains unknown.

Fryers had arrived in Britain in the spring of 1993 to set up one of at least three bombing teams operating or waiting to be activated. His role was to lead a renewed attack on the City within a few months of the Bishopsgate bomb, causing fresh embarrassment to the authorities.

Mrs Justice Ebsworth: "two remorseless men"

As a base he used a safe house in the village of New Sauchie, near Alloa, where police and MI5 were watching him as part of an undercover operation which had run for nearly three months. Fryers's contact was Jack, who worked at a turkey farm and had 29 previous convictions, ranging from breach of the peace to assault. He was known to have links with the IRA.

Jack hired a garage near his flat and a unit at a Glasgow industrial centre to be used to store bomb-making equipment. However, as both men plotted, a video camera monitored their movements. The surveillance team followed Fryers to the Scratchwood service area on the M1 and to the hotel, where he stayed for three days.

Eventually, Fryers picked up a parked Ford Escort, driven over from Ulster, and drove back to Scotland. In the back were seven 2½ kg blocks of Semtex, seven electrical detonators and seven timing devices. At times he drove so fast that the surveillance team had to radio ahead to traffic police to make sure he was not stopped for speeding.

At the flat he unloaded the equipment for seven bombs. The first was to be planted in London a few days later. Fryers took the Escort south followed by relays of police and MI5. He parked the car in Neasden, northwest London, where he had stayed in the past, and waited for a bus. At that moment police decided they could not let him run any further and moved in. They ordered him to lie face down on the pavement, then crawl slowly away from the holdall containg the bomb.

Jack, still under observation in Scotland, returned from work for lunch. He switched on the news, probably expecting to hear first details of a new IRA outrage. Instead police were confirming an important arrest. Gathering up the rest of the bombing equipment, he drove into the country to hide it. MI5 officers later said they could not follow because it would have been suspicious to get any closer. When Jack was stopped the cache had gone. Two days later, after an extensive search with troops, it was found.

Mrs Justice Ebsworth told Jack that he went into the bombing campaign "with your eyes wide open". She went on: "Your final act was to hide the remaining six component parts of bombs — no doubt to preserve them for future use."

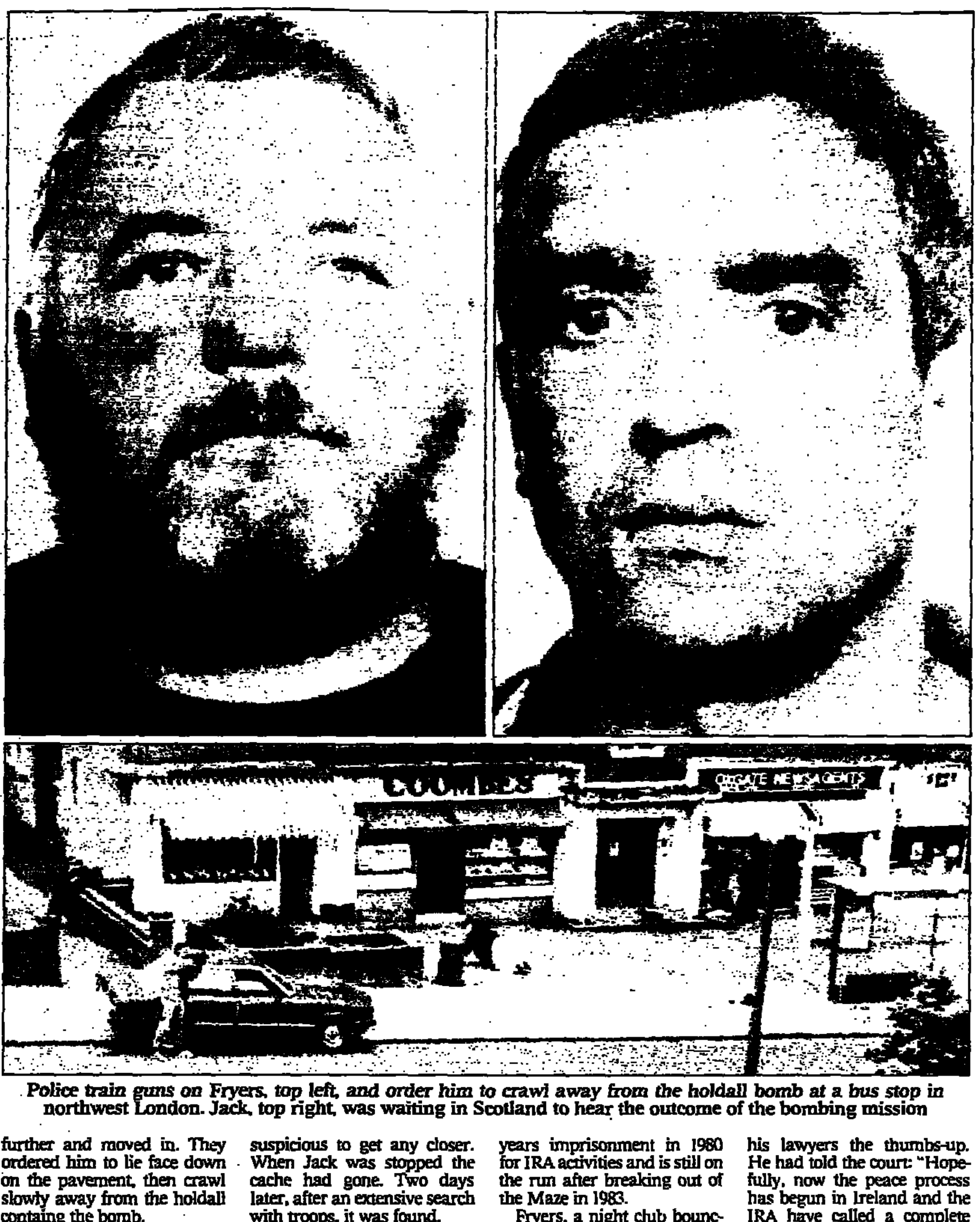
Fryers was regarded in Northern Ireland as a senior figure in the IRA. His brother Gerry was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment in 1980 for IRA activities and is still on the run after breaking out of the Maze in 1983.

Fryers, a night club bouncer, was known as an IRA hard man and enforcer. MI5 officers believe these tasks concealed his role as an experienced IRA tactician.

One security expert said: "There was discontent, we were sweeping up their people. The IRA leaders decided they should send over a real man."

Before he was led to the cells, Fryers smiled and gave his lawyers the thumbs-up. He had told the court: "Hopefully, now the peace process has begun in Ireland and the IRA have called a complete cessation of military operations, this will be one of the last republican cases to come before an English court.

"Ireland has been under British occupation for the last 800 years and the Irish people have consistently fought that occupation. The British and the judiciary responded by putting to death and imprisonment many Irish people. It has never worked."



Police train guns on Fryers, top left, and order him to crawl away from the holdall bomb at a bus stop in northwest London. Jack, top right, was waiting in Scotland to hear the outcome of the bombing mission

Scientists say diesel may claim thousands of lives

By Nick Nuttall
Environment Correspondent

THOUSAND of lives could be saved each year if the Government introduced tighter controls on the use of diesel fuel, new research claimed yesterday. Scientists investigating the link between traffic pollution and ill health believe the ultra-fine particles in diesel fumes may increase the risk of lung and heart disease.

The researchers, including a government adviser, say the particles, coated in chemicals and acids, can float for weeks in invisible clouds that penetrate rural areas and buildings. "Most indoor environments are unlikely to provide substantial protection from the risk of inhaling them," they say in *The Lancet*.

Dr David Godden of Aberdeen University, a member of the team, said that the findings were sufficient to suggest the need for a possible restriction on the increase in diesel vehicles or the funding of new technologies to remove the ultra-fine particles. Dr William MacNee of Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, another member, said that in Lothian alone diesel fumes might account for "more than 119 extra deaths a year". The concentrations likely to trigger changes in the blood and lungs "and tip the balance in a susceptible population" could be quite low, he said.

Another of the researchers, Professor Anthony Seaton, chairman of the Environment Department's Expert Panel on Air Quality Standards, said last night that he did not share the view that particles were causing more deaths. He said it was likely that during high pollution some people who were very unwell died weeks or months prematurely.

Studies of coal miners and workers in dusty industries failed to find a higher rate of heart disease among them. The scientists claim that this is because the particles they inhale are too big to trigger blood changes and settle in hours, while the diesel particles are fine enough to penetrate deep into the lungs and may not settle for weeks.

Inventors take dental drill abroad

By Paul Wilkinson

THE inventors of a portable dentists' drill which allows patients to be treated at home have taken their idea abroad after failing to get Government backing or private investment in Britain.

The laser drill, which works from a household power socket, can remove a tooth without touching sound tissue and glaze a tooth to prevent decay. It also destroys bacteria and works without causing bleeding. John Derbyshire, the dentist who helped conceive the device, runs a practice in Netherton, near Huddersfield, West Yorkshire. He said: "The attitude in Britain was all wrong. It seemed as if we had to prove we were not defrauding anybody before we could start. Abroad we were welcomed with open arms."

Development costs and trial expenses have so far been funded by the Austrian government to the tune of £200,000. Clinical tests at the University of Graz on the Dentek diode laser drill will be completed soon and the drill should go on sale in three months. Because of the switch abroad Britain is only fifth on a list of countries targeted for sales.

At £17,000 the Dentek drill is said to be half the price of its closest competitor. Mr Derbyshire wants to sell about 50 in the first year, but hopes eventually to have one in each of the 250,000 dentists' surgeries across Europe.

A DTI spokesman said Mr Derbyshire had been offered a regional enterprise grant of £25,000. "It is a shame he could not take it up and decided to look elsewhere. It was the maximum we could offer."

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

Dealer North **North-South game. IMPs**

♠J872
♥Q83
♦83
♣A987

♠Q6
♥72
♦J62
♣KQJ1054

N
W E
S

♠K104
♥A5
♦AKQ109754
♣—

♠A953
♥KJ10964
♦—
♣632

W	N	E	S
Forrester		Robson	
—	Pass	2♦	2♥
3♣	3♥	3NT	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
5♦	Pass	6♦	All pass

Opening lead: ♥J

By Robert Sheehan
Bridge Correspondent

Today's hand features a slam swing in the England-Wales encounter in this year's Camrose series. Robson's Two Diamonds was a weird form of the "Multi-coloured" Two Diamonds, invented by Terence Reese and Jeremy Flint 20 years ago. "Multi" refers to the fact that the bid can be made on several different types of hand, some weak and some strong.

There is a fair degree of controversy about whether such bids should be allowed. My view is that you should not play them against women and children, but that in international matches anything goes (even when the opposition falls into the w & c class).

In this case Robson's hand was either a weak two in hearts, or a strong eight-playing-trick hand in diamonds. Forrester did well to bid on over 3NT. The hand was not difficult to play. Robson won the heart lead and drew trumps in two rounds, ending in dummy with the jack. He now led the king of clubs for a ruffing finesse against North's king. If North puts the ace on the king, it is ruffed; if he plays small, the king wins and declarer can continue with the queen of clubs, presenting North with the same dilemma. Robson made 13 tricks in his slam. At the other table the Welsh stopped in Five Diamonds.

The Macallan Pairs

The Macallan International Bridge Pairs Championship, in association with *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, will be held at the White House Hotel, Albany Street, London NW1, next Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. For details and tickets contact the hotel.

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene
Chess Correspondent

Short shines

Britain's Nigel Short continues to display formidable form in the international knockout tournament at Wijk aan Zee in Holland.

In the first round of the quarter-finals he inflicted a sharp defeat in a complicated game on the Russian grandmaster Sergei Tiviakov.

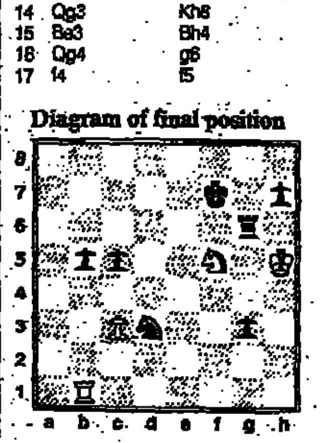
White: Sergei Tiviakov
Black: Nigel Short
Wijk aan Zee, January 1995

Ruy Lopez

1	e4	e5
2	Nf3	Nc6
3	Bb5	a6
4	Ba4	Nf6
5	Qe2	b5
6	Bb3	d6
7	c3	Be7
8	0-0	0-0
9	Rd1	Bg4
10	h3	Bxf3
11	Qxf3	Na5
12	Bc2	c5
13	d3	Nd7
14	Qg3	Kh8
15	Be3	Bh4
16	Qg4	g6
17	f4	f5
18	exd5	gxf5
19	Qf3	Rg8
20	Nd2	Rg3
21	Qe2	Qe7
22	Bf2	Rg7
23	Kh1	Rag8
24	Rg1	Bxf2
25	Qxf2	Nf6
26	fxe5	Nh5
27	exd6	Qe5
28	Nf1	Nf4
29	Re1	Nxh3
30	Qh4	Qxd6
31	Qxh3	Rg6
32	Bd1	Rh6
33	Bh5	Rg5
34	g4	Qc8+
35	Qg2	fxg4
36	Qxc6	Rgxh5+
37	Kg2	Nxc6
38	Re8+	Kg7
39	Kg3	Ne5
40	Ne3	Kf7
41	Rd8	Rh3+
42	Kf4	Rf6+
43	Nf5	Rxd3
44	Rxd3	Nxd3+
45	Kg5	Rg6+
46	Kh5	Nxb2
47	Rb1	Nd3
48	a4	g3
49	axb5	axb5

White resigns

Diagram of final position



FIDE championship

FIDE, the World Chess Federation, has announced its schedule for its semi-final matches to be held in Sanghi Nagar, India.

FIDE champion Anatoly Karpov (Russia) faces Boris Gelfand (Belarus) while Valery Salov (Russia) meets Gata Kamsky of the USA.

Game one will be played on Monday, February 6, with the final tie-breaks, should any be needed, set for Thursday, February 23.

Winning Move, Weekend, page 27

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Spouse
Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms Initials ____ Surname ____
Date of Birth ____ / ____ / ____

Children Initials Surname Date of Birth
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Sale of rare collection of Kipling books and ephemera marks master storyteller's return to favour

Once shunned voice of imperialism given new hearing

By Alan Hamilton

THE best collection of Rudyard Kipling books to come on the market for half a century is being offered by a London antiquarian bookseller for £45,000.

More than 200 items, including an unusually complete set of first editions and several rare pieces of Kipling ephemera, are being offered as a single lot by Maggs, the Berkeley Square rare book specialists. Director Edward Maggs said his firm wanted to sell the collection complete rather than break it up into individual lots.

Rarities among the collection include one of only 50 copies ever produced of the first edition of Kipling's first book, *Schoolboy Lyrics*, printed by the *Civil and Military Gazette* magazine in Lahore when the author was 16. A copy of his second book, *Echoes*, co-written with his sister and also printed in India, is also included. It consists of parodies of eminent Victorian poets, as well as *Nursery Rhymes for Anglo-Indians*, one of which reads: "Hush-a-by Baby / In the Verandah / When the sun drops / Baby may wander / When the hot weathercomes / Baby will die / With a fine *pucca* tomb / In the ce-me-te-ry."

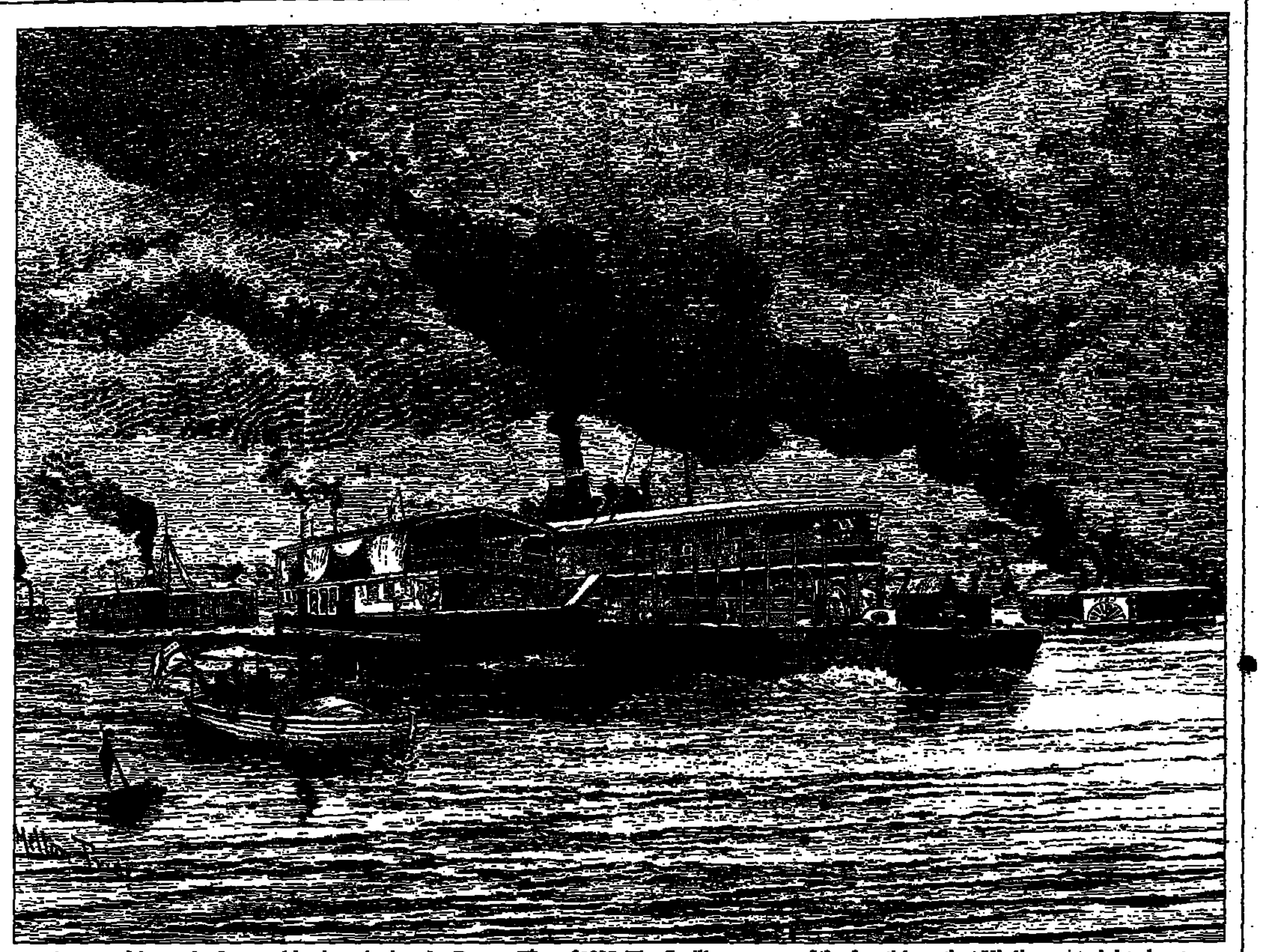
Kipling: began writing poetry as a teenager

There has been a considerable revival of interest recently in early editions of Kipling, once regarded as the outdated voice of Imperial Britain, but now increasingly seen as a major literary figure of the late 19th and early 20th century, and a storyteller of the first rank. Among the ephemera being offered is an extremely rare pamphlet, hand-printed by Kipling at his house in Rottingdean in 1900, excoriating the American publisher George Haven Putnam, who pirated many of the author's books. Kipling describes him as "born of disreputable parents".

The collection was assembled by Colonel Mark Wolff, a Canadian-born veteran of the First World War who became head of the Tube Investments engineering company. In his will Colonel Wolff left the collection on permanent loan to the Kipling Society, which housed it at the Royal Commonwealth Society in central London.

The RCS is vacating its former home and the Kipling collection is being sold on behalf of Colonel Wolff's estate. The sale was entrusted to Maggs following a report in *The Times* that the shop had acquired another Kipling collection built by an Australian mining tycoon.

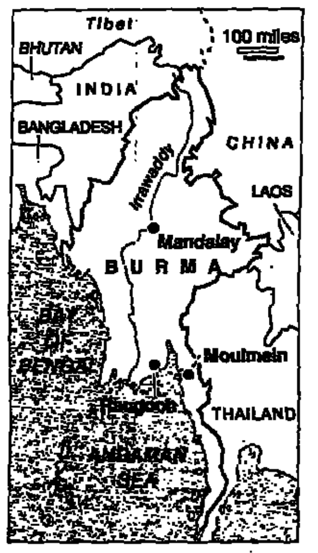
☐ Three £1 notes given in 1916 by George V to a woman who had given birth to triplets are expected to fetch £800 at a Phillips auction in London on February 9. The money was never spent.


A troop ship on the Irrawaddy river during the Burma War of 1885. The flotilla was one of the few things that Kipling was right about

Poet kept his rhyme but lost his reason on the road to Mandalay

Come you back to Mandalay, Where the old Flotilla lay:
Can't you 'ear their paddles chunkin' from Rangoon to
Mandalay?
On the road to Mandalay, Where the flyin'-fishes play,
An' the dawn comes up like thunder outer China 'crost
the Bay!

The chorus from Kipling's Mandalay



LONG though he may have been on imperial echoes, Rudyard Kipling was decidedly short on geography. There are no flyin' fishes playing in the fabled Burmese city of Mandalay — it is 200 miles from the sea (Alan Hamilton writes).

The old Moulmein pagoda, with its Burma girl a-settin', is on the coast but 400 miles to the south. And while the dawn undoubtedly comes up like thunder outer China to the east, it does not come up 'crost the bay, as the bay is due west.

The poem's highly confused sense of direction is questioned in the current edition of the Kipling Society's quarterly journal by Sir George Engle, QC, the retired first parliamentary counsel, who has spent the best part of a lifetime puzzling over the road to Mandalay, and how the old Flotilla could possibly grind its paddles up it.

"My childhood image was of a seaside road leading to a place called Mandalay, with a pagoda on the landward side of it and flying fishes 'playing' close inshore in the bay." Perhaps, Sir George wondered, the writer meant "road" in the maritime sense, as an anchorage in sheltered waters. "That would fit the flotilla, but what possible connection is there between a 'road' of this kind near Moulmein on the coast of Burma, and the distant inland city of Mandalay?"

According to George Webb, editor of the Kipling Journal, Kipling was at least right about the flotilla. During the Third Burma War of 1885, the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company's paddle steamers carried 10,000 British troops, 7,000 followers, 500 mules and two mountain batteries upriver from Rangoon to capture Mandalay. But Mr Webb admits that the geography of the rest of the poem is more than questionable.

Kipling never went to Mandalay (hence his reference to the city's non-existent palm trees) but his lines, inspired by memories of the Bay of Bengal as seen from the deck of a troopship, became both his most famous poem and a hit song between the wars. In its original version, the first line read: "By the old Moulmein pagoda, lookin' eastward to the sea."

As one stands in Moulmein, the sea is unquestionably to the west. Kipling subsequently altered the line to "lookin' lazy at the sea." Mr Webb has unearthed the poet's own admission of guilt in his autobiographical *Something of Myself*. There Kipling conceded that Moulmein was "not on the road to anywhere" and did "not command any view of any sun rising across the Bay of Bengal". He further came clean by admitting that "the song was a mix-up of the singer's Far Eastern memories against a background of the Bay of Bengal as seen at dawn from a troopship." The road to Mandalay was his "golden path to romance".

Mr Webb confidently expects further debate on the matter, and has primed the argument with a not altogether implausible theory that the old Moulmein pagoda was actually in Rangoon. Sir George is somewhat less than satisfied with Kipling's own explanation. "It's a pretty feeble reply; can you really imagine that he deliberately mixed up the geography? Mind you, having done it he couldn't alter it, or he would have wrecked the poem."

Things have changed, of course. Burma now calls itself Myanmar, and its capital has become Yangon. But a spokesman for its London embassy confirmed yesterday that the city of pagodas 400 miles up the Irrawaddy is forever *Mandalay*.

☐ The Kipling Society exists for anyone interested in the prose and verse, and life and times, of Rudyard Kipling (1865-1936). Particulars of membership can be obtained by writing to the Secretary, Kipling Society, PO Box 68 Haslemere, Surrey.

Solicitors may go to court over right to take silk

Lord Chancellor accused of bias over QC appointments

By Frances Gibb, legal correspondent

SOLICITORS are calling on the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, to end what they claim is unlawful discrimination over promotions to the rank of Queen's Counsel.

Members of the newly formed Solicitors' Association of Higher Court Advocates say that the procedures for inviting applications for Queen's Counsel, the senior rank of the profession, are in breach of the law and directly discriminates against solicitors. The solicitors, who can now compete with barristers and handle cases in the higher courts, have taken counsel's opinion and say the wording of Lord Mackay's annual invitation for silk applications, specifically to barristers of ten years' standing, is discriminatory and could be challenged in the courts through judicial review.

Paul Hampton, chairman of the association, which has more than 100 members, said: "When solicitors won the right to appear in the higher courts, the wording of the invitation for silk in the autumn was altered, so that it applied only to barristers. We have written to the Lord Chancellor asking him to confirm that by next autumn the wording will be changed. We have taken legal advice and we think the case is unanswerable."

The solicitors have also asked for a meeting with Lord Mackay to discuss a recent direction by the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor of Gosforth, that ensured solicitor-advocates do not wear wigs. With the Criminal Law Solicitors' Association, the advocates association will urge the Lord Chancellor to bring the long-running debate on the wearing of wigs "to a swift conclusion".

Mr Hampton said: "There is a feeling that wigs may confer a competitive advantage on the Bar, which is completely unjustified. If there is any case for wigs being worn in court, whether because they confer dignity on the court or anonymity on the advocate, that should apply to all advocates."

Some solicitors do not want to wear wigs but there is a widespread view among solicitor-advocates that they should be allowed to do so if they want.

☐ A leading member of the Bar has called for references to sexual orientation to be deleted from the confidential files kept for judicial appointment by the Lord Chancellor's Department. Martin Bowley, QC, a homosexual who is president of the Bar Lesbian and Gay Group, has written to the Commons Home Affairs Select Committee which is considering the way judges are chosen. He asks the MPs to confirm that candidates are no longer asked about their sexual orientation.

Mr Bowley records his own experience in June 1985 when, in an interview with Tom Legg, then head of judicial appointments (now Sir Tom Legg, permanent secretary), he was asked if he was a homosexual. He was then told that the policy at that time, when Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone was Lord Chancellor, was that homosexuals should not be appointed to full-time judicial posts.

Mr Bowley was told he could continue to sit as a recorder but he could never expect to be offered higher judicial office. He resigned as a recorder in January 1988 after disclosures about his private life in *The Sun*.

Mackay: invitations made only to barristers

Mr Bowley says in his letter to the MPs that his conversation with Mr Legg made clear that there was a reference to his sexual orientation on his file. He asks that all such references should be removed, and for confirmation that there is no discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation when judges are appointed.

The Lord Chancellor's Department said yesterday that Lord Mackay had made it clear that his policy was to appoint people regardless of gender, religion or sexual orientation. "I should think it highly unlikely the files would contain reference to sexual orientation because it is not relevant, it is not an issue," a spokesman said.

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Doctor fined for wrecking rape trial

By Marianne Curphey

A POLICE doctor who caused a rape trial to collapse when she went on holiday instead of giving evidence has been fined £3,000. The defendant was acquitted after Dr Kusum Agrawal went to India with her husband, even though her testimony was "pivotal" and police had told her to attend court to give evidence.

The Old Bailey was told yesterday that when she was telephoned in India by a police officer, Dr Agrawal said: "What can the judge do if I don't turn up? Hang me?"

Judge Laughland, QC, yesterday described her actions as deceitful and irresponsible and said she had wasted a large amount of public money.

Agrawal, 39, of Surbiton, Surrey, flew to India during the trial of Paul Griffin, 38, in December. Griffin, of Brixton, south London, was alleged to have subjected a woman, 28, and her two children to three days of terror. He claimed she had consented to sex.

Agrawal, who had denied contempt of court, said she had made a "gross misjudgment".

Tribunal backs decision to sack sex-pest lecturer

By Catherine Milton

A LECTURER sacked for pestering a female student with a licentious letter and requests for dates was not unfairly dismissed, an industrial tribunal ruled yesterday.

Simon Brown, 44, was sacked by the University of Central Lancashire, Preston, for gross professional misconduct, after the 21-year-old student complained about his attentions. Mr Brown said he was "bitterly disappointed" by the result, which turned down both his claim of unfair dismissal and of sex discrimination. The university said it was "very pleased" the tribunal had supported its decision to sack the former senior lecturer in computing.

The tribunal in Manchester heard that the student cried after reading the letter Mr Brown sent her. He wrote: "It's not some sort of puppy love. In fact, there are quite a lot of things I want to do to you. Submit. Bring your body to my room wrapped in an elegant dress, or send a note saying: 'I give in' . . . What I suggest is a night . . . or a weekend away. Finally, you must not think of this as a love letter."

Mr Brown, who is married with two children, had allegedly admitted sending the letter to the student and asking her for dates, but denied sexually harassing her. He claimed he was the victim of a witchhunt by the university's harassment officer and that a woman in his position would have been treated differently.

Brian Booth, rector of the university, said it was committed to providing an environment free of harassment and intimidation.

Mr Brown said: "I am bitterly disappointed. The case highlights issues concerning the fair treatment of men accused of sexual harassment, which I hope will now start a serious public debate."

Mr Brown lost his job in October 1993 after the student reported him to the university's sexual harassment officer. The tribunal heard that Mr Brown had insisted on accompanying the student to her doctor and invited her shopping.

The panel was also told he had asked a course leader in women's studies for the addresses of six other women.

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'Unless there is an injection of money, insult will be added to injury'

Thalidomide trust freezes payouts as fund shrinks

By John Young

THE trust fund set up in 1973 for the victims of the drug thalidomide has been forced to stop index-linking benefits to protect its diminishing reserves. The Thalidomide Trust, which was established by Distillers, the manufacturers of the drug, has reserves of some £60 million and pays out around £5 million a year to 460 survivors with varying degrees of disability.

Neil Buckland, the trust's director, said yesterday: "Essentially this is a finite fund, and it is not going to get any more money from anyone else, so far as I know."

The trust periodically commissions progress reports, and the latest one showed that, at the present rate, taking into account inflation, mortality rates and the return on investments, funds would be exhausted by 2009.

"During the past decade the trustees have aimed to ensure that increases in benefits keep pace with inflation," Mr Buckland said. Actuaries had advised them that, if they continued to index-link distributions, assuming 5 per cent annual inflation, the money would be gone in 15 years. Mr Buckland agreed that 5 per cent was some way above the current inflation rate, but said the trust had decided not to increase benefits for the next two years, after which the position would be reassessed.

The Thalidomide Action Group, which campaigns on behalf of victims, yesterday sent *The Times* a copy of a report by the trust, which states that, after receiving the actuaries' report in January last year, it commissioned a second firm to review the projections.

This confirmed the assumptions and the conclusions. The actuaries had predicted that, if allocations were not increased from the 1993-94 level, then the fund would not be exhausted until 2024. The trustees had therefore agreed that there should be no increases during 1995-96 or 1996-97.

The action group described the most recent accounts published by the trust as "extremely disturbing". "What had been dismissed as scaremongering has finally come home to roost," it said. "1994 was a watershed for the trust fund, in that the income generated by the fund was less than the monies paid out. The trustees had to eat into the capital to meet its obligations. In 2009 the thalidomide victims will be between 45 and 50. In 2024, living at 1994 income levels, they will be between 60 and 65. Unless there is a substantial injection of money, insult will be added to injury for these victims."

SIMON TOWNSLEY

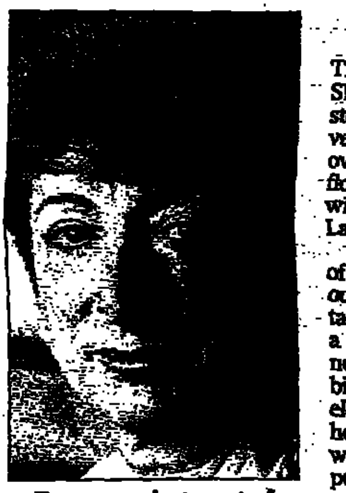
Freddie Astbury: "Because most of us were so seriously deformed, no one expected we would live this long"

Freddie Astbury, 35, chairman of the action group, who was born without arms or legs, said yesterday that he received £11,000 a year in benefits, of which the Government took about a third in tax. He had one child of his own and three stepchildren to support. He set up the group about a year ago. "We knew the trust was in trouble but it wouldn't admit it. Now it has decided to come clean. The main problem is that we have lived too long," he said. "Because most of us were very seriously deformed, they didn't reckon we had a very long life expectancy."

Last March the action group called for a government inquiry and for the Government and Distillers, now part of the Guinness group, to agree to give victims a better deal. At least three members began a hunger strike. But both the trust and the Thalidomide Society described their demands as unrealistic. It was also pointed out that the action group's demand that the trust should be exempted from paying tax on its investment income would never be accepted. All trusts paid tax on their income, and to make exceptions would require an overhaul of the entire system.

A Guinness spokesman said the fund had been set up by Distillers with an initial payment and had then been left in the hands of the trust. The company had no say in how the money was invested.

Porter's critic accused of pro-Labour housing ploy


Porter: main target of Labour allegations

By Andrew Pierce

THE leading critic of Dame Shirley Porter in the Westminster gerrymandering controversy was attacked last night over a housing plan that will flood a marginal council ward with hundreds of potential Labour voters.

Peter Bradley, deputy leader of Westminster Council's Labour group, was a paid consultant on a scheme to transform a derelict industrial site in neighbouring Camden into a big housing association development. It will provide homes in the Labour marginal ward Chalk Farm for 850 people who are on the housing waiting list.

Mr Bradley, a Labour councillor since 1986, was a consultant to the Safeway supermarket chain and the Community Housing Association, whose proposals for a joint development were adopted by Camden Council in 1993.

The scheme will create 250 jobs. An industrial-led development with housing, the council's original preferred option, would have created 750 jobs in the borough, which has more than 15,000 people out of work.

A senior council officer, who played an advisory role in the multi-million-pound development, said last night: "I attended several meetings where I heard Labour councillors argue that it had to be council housing on the site because it is a Labour marginal ward. I argued that we should not proceed in that way."

Mr Bradley has been the most vociferous critic of Westminster Council's alleged policy of selling council houses in marginal wards, which is under investigation by the District Auditor. Dame Shirley, the former leader of the council, has been the principal target of the Labour Party's criticism.

Mr Bradley said: "I cannot speak for the motive of Camden Council or its members as I did not have and did not seek direct access to them about the scheme." The scheme was in contrast to Westminster Council's attitude, which had been "to resist the development of social housing and deport those in housing need from the borough".

He added: "I am very proud of my modest professional role in this scheme. I have used it publicly to illustrate what can be done to provide homes in the inner city at no public cost to the local authority. The worst I can be accused of is being able to promote as a professional the kind of schemes I advocate as a politician."

Tony Kerpel, a Camden Tory councillor during the 1980s, said said the scheme was one of the biggest social housing developments in central London. "It means more Labour voters in a marginal Labour-held ward. There was a political agenda." Miles Young, leader of Westminster Tories, said: "Labour is guilty of double standards."

Credo

Faith presses on beyond the realm of reason

Geoffrey Rowell

NEXT Saturday Christians in the West commemorate one of the greatest intellects of the Christian world, St Thomas Aquinas. Born in 1225, near Monte Cassino, he studied and taught in Italy and in Paris as a Dominican friar, integrating the rediscovered philosophy of Aristotle in a Christian metaphysic and theology that continues to have a powerful influence.

Yet his great *Summa* of theological exploration and integration remained unfinished. On December 6, 1273, returning to his cell after the celebration of Mass, Thomas declared he would write no more.

"All that I have written seems to me nothing but straw — compared with what I have seen and what has been revealed to me." Three months later he died, on March 7, 1274.

Thomas did not doubt that reason was created by God and that God was not only the ground of all being but the ground of our human knowing. The intelligibility of the world and our capacity to know are pointers to the God who created, ordered and sustains it. We may know *that* God is, but to know *what* and *who* God is depends on God making himself known, on his transcribing of his being and truth into the fabric of our human life — the Word becoming flesh, the Divine Reason expressing the truth of God in incarnation. Christians dare to say of a single human life, that of Jesus of Nazareth, that in him the fulness of the Godhead was pleased to dwell, that in him we see the glory of God.

This we know, not by reason but by faith, a faith that is not opposed to reason but goes beyond it in obedience and devotion. Christian theology is "faith seeking understanding" and that understanding always finds itself in a tension between the *via affirmativa*, the way of affirmation, which seeks to come to the knowledge of God through images, symbols and sacraments, and the *via negativa*, or way of negation, which returns time and again to the overwhelming otherness of God, to the fragility and inadequacy of our human concepts.

For the Christian mystics all images, even the holiest, conceal God, not because they are evil but because they are finite. Yet Christianity as a religion of incarnation affirms at its centre that matter is and can be the bearer of spirit; that God is known in flesh and blood and in bread and wine. Buildings and worship resonate with the tension — the mosaics of Monreale in Sicily and the simplicity of a Welsh chapel; the silence of Carthusians and Quakers pointing to the same God praised in Bach chorales, the Wesleys' hymns and Russian chant. The unfinished *Summa* of St Thomas reminds us that all our knowledge is fragmentary. Did not St Paul, whose conversion we also celebrate next week, remind us that "now we see through a glass darkly"? The light from heaven that blinded Paul on the Damascus road was the same light that led Thomas to exclaim that all his writing was as straw compared with what he had seen.

☐ *The Right Rev Geoffrey Rowell is Bishop of Basingstoke*

At Your Service
Weekend, page 2

Solicitor is jailed for fraud

A SOLICITOR was jailed for six years for his part in a multimillion pound mortgage fraud at Wood Green Crown Court in north London yesterday.

David Sachs, 50, of Stowmarket, Suffolk, was a "prime mover" in a swindle involving 60 properties which defrauded building societies out of £8 million, Judge Martineau said. Most of the money had not been recovered.

John Skok, 35, of Crouch End, north London, a property developer, and Liam Leroy, 35, of Camberwell, southeast London, a mortgage broker, were jailed for three and a half years for conspiracy to defraud. John Aidiniantz, 37, of Belgravia, West London, was jailed for three years. William Eaglen, 46, of Balham, south London, a solicitor, received two years for conspiracy to defraud.

Soldier who killed son walks free

A SOLDIER who killed his baby son in a fit of temper walked free from the High Court in Edinburgh yesterday (Gillian Bowditch writes).

Francis Goodwin, 30, a lance corporal, pleaded guilty to the culpable homicide of ten-week-old Nathan last September. The baby died in hospital. Goodwin admitted shaking his son violently. He was jailed for six months, dating from October, which with remission meant that he was freed.

The judge, Lord Prosser, said Goodwin was a good man who had not deliberately killed his son. Neil Murray, QC, for Goodwin, told the court that what had occurred was "an aberration". He had been feeding Nathan when the baby refused to feed and started crying.

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MP condemns plan to sell commemorative plaques to Americans as 'embarrassing'

Clan chief accused of cashing in on dead of Culloden

By Gillian Bowditch
Scotland Correspondent

THE chief of Scotland's most powerful clan has been accused of tastelessly cashing in on the Battle of Culloden by selling Scottish expatriates plaques in a memorial garden to mark the 250th anniversary of the battle next year.

Lord Macdonald of Macdonald, high chief of the Clan Donald, has taken a full-page advertisement in the expatriate magazine *Highlander* offering Americans and Canadians the chance to honour their ancestors for $250 (£170). He is creating the memorial garden in the grounds of Kinloch Lodge on Skye, which he and his wife Claire, a cookery writer, run as a hotel.

News of the memorial garden has brought recriminations from highlanders who feel the venture is in poor taste. Calum MacDonald, Labour MP for Western Isles, said he found it "almost painfully embarrassing". *The West Highland Free Press* said the venture was "crass".

Lord Macdonald: denies he will make any money

Under the heading "Remember Culloden", *Highlander* readers are urged to act quickly to ensure their family's place in history as only a limited number of memorial stones are available. "As someone who takes pride in your Highland heritage, nothing you do today could be more important." the advertisement says.

"Here on the Isle of Skye, above the shores of Loch na Dal, with the mountains of Knoydart across the sound of Sleat, the sense of history is palpable. The past lives on and Kinloch is a very special place for any Highlander and his family." Attached to the advertisement is a coupon.

Commemorative stones are available in three sizes and styles starting at $250. At the centre of the garden will be a stone dedicated to all those who fell. Around it will be the stones bought by individuals.

Lord Macdonald, eighth chief of the Clan Donald, whose motto is *Per mare per terras* (By Land and Sea), says he will make very little money out of the venture, which will also commemorate his 25th anniversary as high chief. "I don't want to let the anniversary pass without some input from myself," he said.

The defeat of the Jacobites at the Battle of Culloden in 1746 crushed Stuart hopes of regaining the throne

He denies attempting to cash in on the battle. "You will obviously get people who will say that, no matter what I try to do. I am quite happy with it and the clan commissioners are quite happy with it. By the time we have created a garden I will make very little indeed out of it. That is not the idea."

The row over the memorial garden has led to accusations that during the battle, the Macdonalds of Macdonald did little to support the Jacobite cause. It is said that Lord Godfrey's ancestor, Sir Alexander Macdonald of Sleat, pleged to raise a clan in support of Prince Charles if he landed with a sizeable French force. When the Prince arrived with only a handful of soldiers, Sir Alexander is said to have decided not to risk the clan.

Next year's 250th anniversary of Culloden will be marked by a number of events throughout Scotland. Ross Mackenzie of the National Trust for Scotland, which owns the site of the Culloden battlefield near Inverness, says the Trust is planning a major exhibition called The Swords and The Sorrows. There will also be a series of lectures throughout next summer by eminent Jacobite historians.

"That is all we are doing. There will be no re-enactments or anything like that. Our intention is not to celebrate but to commemorate. There are 1,200 dead clansmen in the field. The idea of celebration seems to be creeping into some of the events planned, which I think is a pity."

The National Trust Centre at Culloden is expecting an especially large number of visitors next year. There are normally around 120,000 paying visitors to the centre, but access to the battlefield itself is free. More than 250,000 are estimated to visit it each year. "There are a lot of Canadians and Americans who would not be where they are today if it were not for Culloden. It is a very emotive site which holds a great deal of significance for very many people," Mr Mackenzie said.

The Battle of Culloden is commemorated every year on April 16 when a service is held on the battlefield. As well as being the bloodiest of all the Jacobite engagements, it was the last pitched battle to be fought on British soil. It quashed forever Stuart hopes of regaining the throne and plunged the highlands into a period of vicious retribution.

Casinos press for US-style jackpots

By Dominic Kennedy

GAMING machines that pay six-figure jackpots will be installed in British casinos if a campaign to liberalise the gaming laws is successful.

The British Casino Association is lobbying Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, to allow Las Vegas-style slot machines. The number of machines would be decided by the local licensing authority and depend on the type and size of the club.

Peter Byrne, operations director of London Clubs, which operates six casinos in the capital, said: "They could be linked to other machines to have a jackpot of hundreds of thousands of pounds. Why not? People can win that kind of money on the tables."

Mr Howard has indicated he is willing to allow six such machines per casino, which the industry regards as a symbolically important relaxation of the rules.

Casinos are trying to persuade politicians to lift many of the restrictions imposed by the Gaming Act 1968. Mr Howard is expected to publish a consultation paper on deregulation in the spring.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Accident team may salvage helicopter

Air accident investigators were yesterday considering how to salvage the helicopter which ditched into the North Sea on Thursday after being struck by lightning. The Bristow Tiger sank in 400ft of water shortly after the 16 passengers and two crew were picked up from liferafts 140 miles northeast of Aberdeen.

Lottery charges

Ali Hirli, 41, of Tottenham, north London, and Fatima Quassein, 32, of East Ham, were charged with trying to obtain £149,596 by deception from the National Lottery. They were remanded on bail by Bow Street magistrates.

Rail disruption

An electrical fire at Birmingham New Street station disrupted services for travellers yesterday morning. All trains running in and out of the city were cancelled and services will be disrupted over the weekend.

Death fine

Severn Trent Water was fined £100,000 by Leicester Crown Court over the death of Kevin Sutton, who was electrocuted when his tipper truck touched overhead power lines at a site where the company was laying pipes.

Baby drowns

A 10-month-old baby drowned in a bath he was sharing with his brother, aged 3, while their mother, Susan Chapman, of Esh Winning, Co Durham, was in another room putting on make-up.

Benefit success

More than four out of five people eligible for benefits to help those on low incomes are claiming them, the latest government figures show. The take-up rate for family credit has improved to two thirds of those eligible.

Ball hits £8,280

A 150-year-old golf ball sold for £8,280 at a Phillips auction in Chester yesterday. The mint-condition ball, made of leather stuffed with boiled chicken feathers, originally cost 3s 6d (the equivalent of about £115 today).

PC convicted

A policeman was found guilty of stealing about £325 from a football pools round he collected. PC Derek Edmonds, 44, of Leeds, was remanded on bail by Bradford Crown Court for pre-sentence reports.

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Fall of Presidential Palace conjures up images of Apocalypse

Anthony Loyd reports on a journey along the road to hell, the route leading into the inferno that was once Grozny. Given Chechen determination to fight on, the nightmare may have only just begun

GROZNY means terrible in Russian: on Thursday night it was apocalyptic. As Russian troops stormed the Presidential Palace, abandoned and set ablaze by Chechen defenders, the burning city rocked to an artillery barrage of an unprecedented scale, while tank advances in the southwest and east virtually sealed the remaining open route south.

The road to hell is the route by which we entered Grozny on Thursday evening in a lumbering white Volga driven by a Chechen fighter as Russian troops stormed the palace. We started the journey as the light failed, our ears straining for the sound of a jet engine that would signify the approach of a Russian Frogfoot fighter, our headlights turned off. The road was little more than a grey streak in the snow before us, and led quickly into the pulsating, thumping glow of Grozny. On the southern outskirts of the city we were stopped by Chechen fighters and given our first bad news: the way ahead was now sealed by Russian tank fire. Our driver, Sahid, tapped the Kalashnikov that lay across his knees and did a confident U-turn to an alternative back route — one that was to prove every bit as lethal.

The Russian artillery was falling around us, crashing in waves among houses silhouetted by flames. Severed tram lines hung crazily across streets devoid of life except for the occasional scuttling shadow of a fighter — Dantesque figures against the orange glow and smoke.

Our heavy car skidded at the base of an exposed hill. We could only leap out and push. The car ground slowly up the slope, with us silent inside it once more as the road levelled out. Below lay the city centre. The noise and shell detonations rocked us through the sides of the car. Only Sahid seemed unperturbed. Two groups of Chechens had already waved us down and urged us back. He had called out cheerily to each and driven on, as I stared ahead in a state of fear.

Ruptured gas pipes blazed around burning buildings; Grad missiles streaked across the sky; flares floated on high, casting an eerie purple light through the billowing smoke and flames below; shells burst above us while the sound of small-arms and machine-gun fire seemed to reach a crescendo.

We stopped suddenly outside a two-storey stone house. Abandoned by its owners, it had been temporarily requisitioned by the nine photographers and one television cameraman who had elected to stay on.News of the presidency's loss had been brought by an English-speaking Chechen fighter, Maksharip, who had earlier in the afternoon told the photographers that his forces had withdrawn from the palace and set it ablaze. Peter Jouvenal, the cameraman from Frontline News Television, had seen the palace shortly before. "Smoke was pouring from the bottom and the basement. It was on fire and the shelling around it was continuing. There was no flag above it," he said.

The fighting around the presidency had been growing increasingly desperate over the past two days, and as the Russians had tightened their grip around Freedom Square so the Chechen fighters had had to swim the river to enter or leave the palace. Some had already left the city, taking their weapons with them, and moving south to the hills beyond.

But now it was impossible to get near the presidency. Even to leave our shelter was an appalling risk. Listening to the BBC World Service we greeted President Yeltsin's announcement, in which he said that now the palace had fallen his Interior Ministry forces would "restore law, order and civil rights to the Chechen people", with hoots of derision as the barrage thundered on; the Russians were apparently intent on destroying the city in order to retain it.

Dzhokhar Dudayev, the Chechen rebel leader, as a former Soviet strategic bomber commander, will be no stranger to a policy of mutually-assured mass destruction.

Given the Russian disregard for civilian casualties and the Chechens' will to fight on for the southern half of the city they still hold in spite of its virtual sealing from the south, Grozny's nightmare may be far from over.

Defiant Chechen fighters pledge a fight to the end

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN GROZNY

AN EERIE lull fell over a snow-blanketed Grozny yesterday, as the Russian Army failed to press ahead with its offensive against the Chechen-held east and south of the city.

The Chechens have established a new, apparently strong front line along the Sunzha river, which runs through the middle of Grozny.

Chechen fighters said they had abandoned the railway station, their last position west of the Sunzha. The area round the station has seen some of the fiercest fighting in the past three weeks.

Chechen military leaders and ordinary fighters alike, however, declared that the loss of the Presidential Palace on Thursday would make no difference to their struggle, and that they would fight to the end to hold the rest of the city. There were no obvious signs of a collapse of Chechen organisation or morale.

Aslan Maskhadov, the Chechen commander-in-chief, returned to Grozny yesterday from unsuccessful negotiations with the Russian Government in Moscow, through a ferocious Russian night bombardment. Colonel Maskhadov pointed out that even with their overwhelming superiority, it had taken the Russians almost six weeks to get as far as they had.

He told Western journalists in Grozny: "The palace is a symbol, but so is every building in Grozny. Russia will have to fight us for every house until there are no houses left, and then we'll go to fight in the mountains."

A lengthy tour by car yesterday through the Chechen-held eastern and southern half of Grozny showed the huge extent of the area remaining in Chechen hands. The southern suburbs of Oktyabrsky and Chernorechiye remain largely undamaged, though Russian bombardment of them is intensifying. In Chernorechiye, a bomb on Thursday night destroyed a block of flats near the market, killing a Russian woman and wounding several others. Only the fact that so many people have left prevented a massive tragedy. Remarkably, however, the market in Chernorechiye continues to function, even as intermittent artillery fire thumps in the distance. A woman called Zara Dovlat Musayeva, selling chocolate and soft drinks, said: "Of course I am afraid, but I have no other choice but to work here. My flat in the city is destroyed. I am living with relatives in the countryside, and I feel bad about it. I must try to pay my way."

In these areas, although people are now fleeing in large numbers, a considerable part of the population still remains, and continues to lead a semi-normal life. Children were playing in the streets, and their parents were pulling them along on miniature sledges. Towards the centre, any appearance of normality disappears, and more and more houses are in ruins. Only a few people are about, some taking advantage of the lull to return to the city and rescue possessions.

Yesterday's lull could be due to Russian exhaustion or regrouping, but could also be partly due to very heavy falls of snow and low cloud over Grozny. Russian planes continued to swoop and dive over the city, sending cars swerving into ditches and people running for cover. They were met with volleys with ineffective fire from automatic rifles and the occasional anti-aircraft gun.

Meanwhile, Dzhokhar Dudayev, the defiant leader, said Russia's military onslaught had failed to crush his people.Speaking to journalists in the rebel-held region, he said the Chechens were prepared to put up with more sorrow. He called on the outside world to impose sanctions on Russia because of its actions in Chechenia. "Any help, whether financial or technical ...goes to the party of war," he said.

He also said he had warned world leaders, including Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN Secretary-General, and President Clinton, about the danger that nuclear weapons would be used in the region. Chechenia itself has no nuclear weapons.

Dzhokhar Dudayev speaking in a televised interview yesterday, when he urged sanctions against Russia

Grozny women in their block of flats after it was hit by a bomb yesterday

Exhausted Pope has to rest at church

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN COLOMBO

THE Pope, looking frail, kissed a bowl of Sri Lankan soil on his arrival at Colombo airport yesterday, an alternative to his now-abandoned tradition of bending to kiss the ground when visiting a country for the first time.

The pontiff was so exhausted that he stopped his "Popemobile" soon after leaving the airport and took an unscheduled 20-minute rest at St Anthony's Roman Catholic Church, causing consternation among security men and local clergy.

Later, in a brief address, he tacitly appealed for understanding from Buddhist monks who are boycotting his visit, declaring his "highest regard for the followers of Buddhism", the majority religion in Sri Lanka.

The Pope, watched by a small crowd held behind barriers several hundred yards away, said he ardently hoped his visit would serve to "strengthen the good will between us, and that it will reassure every one of the Catholic Church's desire for inter-religious dialogue and co-operation in building a more just and fraternal world". Buddhist monks held out little prospect that this overture would persuade them to accept an invitation to meet him today. They are upset that in his book, *Crossing the Threshold of Hope*, he described Buddhism as "largely an atheistic system".

Fini will urge party to reject racism and anti-Semitism

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

THE Italian "post-Fascist" leader, Gianfranco Fini, is to ask his followers to renounce racism and anti-Semitism next week.

Signor Fini will make the appeal at a congress designed to give more respectability to latter-day disciples of Benito Mussolini.

The paper to be discussed at the forum reportedly includes an "explicit condemnation of anti-Semitism and anti-Jewishness, even when these are camouflaged with the propagandistic cover of anti-Zionism". The meeting is to be held in the spa town of Fiuggi.

Signor Fini, 42, will propose that the Italian Social Movement founded by his mentor, Giorgio Almirante, in 1946 be dissolved and that its members join the National Alliance, which he founded in January last year together with renegade former members of the Christian Democrat Party.

The proposed text of the congress paper also apparently strongly disavows Mussolini's 1938 racial laws, which barred Jews from a number of areas of public life and employment, and paved the way for the deportation of thousands to death camps.

Signor Fini hopes that the congress will be a turning point, a right-wing equivalent of the Italian Communist Party congress held in Bologna in 1991, when the leadership decided to break completely with Marxism and change the party name to the Democratic Party of the Left.

But he faces strong opposition from diehard neo-Fascists such as Pino Rauti and Teodoro Buontempo, who have threatened to form a breakaway "Fascist Refoundation" party after the example of the hardline Communist Refoundation minority party which emerged from the 1991 congress.

It is understood that the statute being presented to the gathering would also make no reference to corporatism — the old Fascist doctrine of the state's duty to control the economy through corporations representing the professions and differing interests.

Paradoxically Signor Fini is proposing to jettison this strategy just as the technocrat Government headed by Lamberto Dini would tie in well with his right-wing philosophy. But Signor Fini has said his party will not support a vote of confidence for Signor Dini in parliament next week on the grounds that technocratic ministers from the previous government were not retained.

Signor Fini has been praised by many Italians for attempting to bring the neo-Facist minority into democratic politics and trying to fashion a conservative party to fill the vacuum created by the disgrace of the Christian Democrats in Italy's corruption scandal. But the resignation of Silvio Berlusconi, the former Prime Minister, has left Signor Fini in a weaker position to challenge traditionalist party chieftains at the congress.

Vatican bars speech by rebel cleric

Rome: The Vatican has intervened to prevent Gustavo Gutierrez, a Peruvian priest, widely credited with first developing Liberation Theology, from speaking to students at Rome's Gregorian University, the training ground for much of the hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church (John Phillips writes).

Academic authorities there invited Father Gutierrez, author of the 1971 book *Liberation Theology*, for "a conversation with students". However this angered Cardinal Pio Laghi, head of the Pontifical Congregation for Catholic Education, who is Grand Chancellor of Gregorian, and he ordered the lecture cancelled.

The Peruvian priest, however, was undeterred by the Vatican veto, and explained his views at the Brazilian College, one of the many Rome seminaries. Hundreds of students went to listen.

It is not the first time he has brushed with Vatican authority over Liberation Theology, a doctrine advocating that Christians take social and political action to defend the poor. The Pope says priests should not be involved in politics.

Aids girl's parents sue hospital

Bucharest: The parents of a six-year-old girl suffering from Aids are suing the Romanian Government and the hospital where they claim she was infected with the HIV virus by an unclean syringe while being treated for an ear infection (Adam LeBor writes).

Violeta and Gabriel Calinciuc are demanding £120,000 from the Ministry of Health and St Mary Hospital in the eastern city of Iasi, over their daughter, Iasmina.

The case could lead to a flood of similar claims around the country in which almost 3,000 children have the HIV virus, the highest rate in Europe.

Louvre theft

Paris: Thieves at the Louvre museum stole a battle-axe from a sculpture by the 17th century artist Desjardins. It was the second theft in a month and the third in six months, police said. *(AFP)*

Bazargan dies

Paris: Mehdi Bazargan, the former Iranian Prime Minister who led the first Government after the late Shah's overthrow in 1979, died yesterday in Zürich of heart failure. He was 87. *(Reuter)*

Obituary, page 21

Egyptians shot

Assiut: Police officers shot dead four leading members of the Islamic militant Gamaa al-Islamiya organisation in a raid on a flat in the southern Egyptian village of Basqaloun. *(Reuter)*

Volcano threat

Geneva: Two big volcanoes are expected to erupt near Goma, Zaire, next month, threatening 800,000 Rwandan refugees. The United Nations is calling for funds to move them to safety. *(Reuter)*

Waco lawsuit

The Australian parents of Aisha Gyarfas, 17, who died with her daughter Startle, one, in the Waco cult fire, have filed a $52 million (£33 million) lawsuit against the American government. *(AP)*

Protest ends

Lima: President Fujimori's estranged wife, Susana Higuchi, 44, has ended a brief hunger strike in protest at being disqualified from taking part in Peru's national elections, after collapsing. *(AP)*

Goodwill note

Seoul: In an apparent goodwill gesture to America, North Korea has reportedly invited President Clinton's half-brother Roger, a pop singer, to perform at its spring sports festival. *(AP)*

Disney fine

Paris: Jean-Yves Dubreuil, a former Disneyland Paris executive, was fined 3,000 francs (£360) after labour officials objected to a ban on beards and moustaches in employee contracts. *(Reuter)*

Love match

Hong Kong: St Valentine's Day, the Western day for lovers, will this year coincide with the Chinese version for the first time since 1976, promising a double dose of romance here. *(Reuter)*

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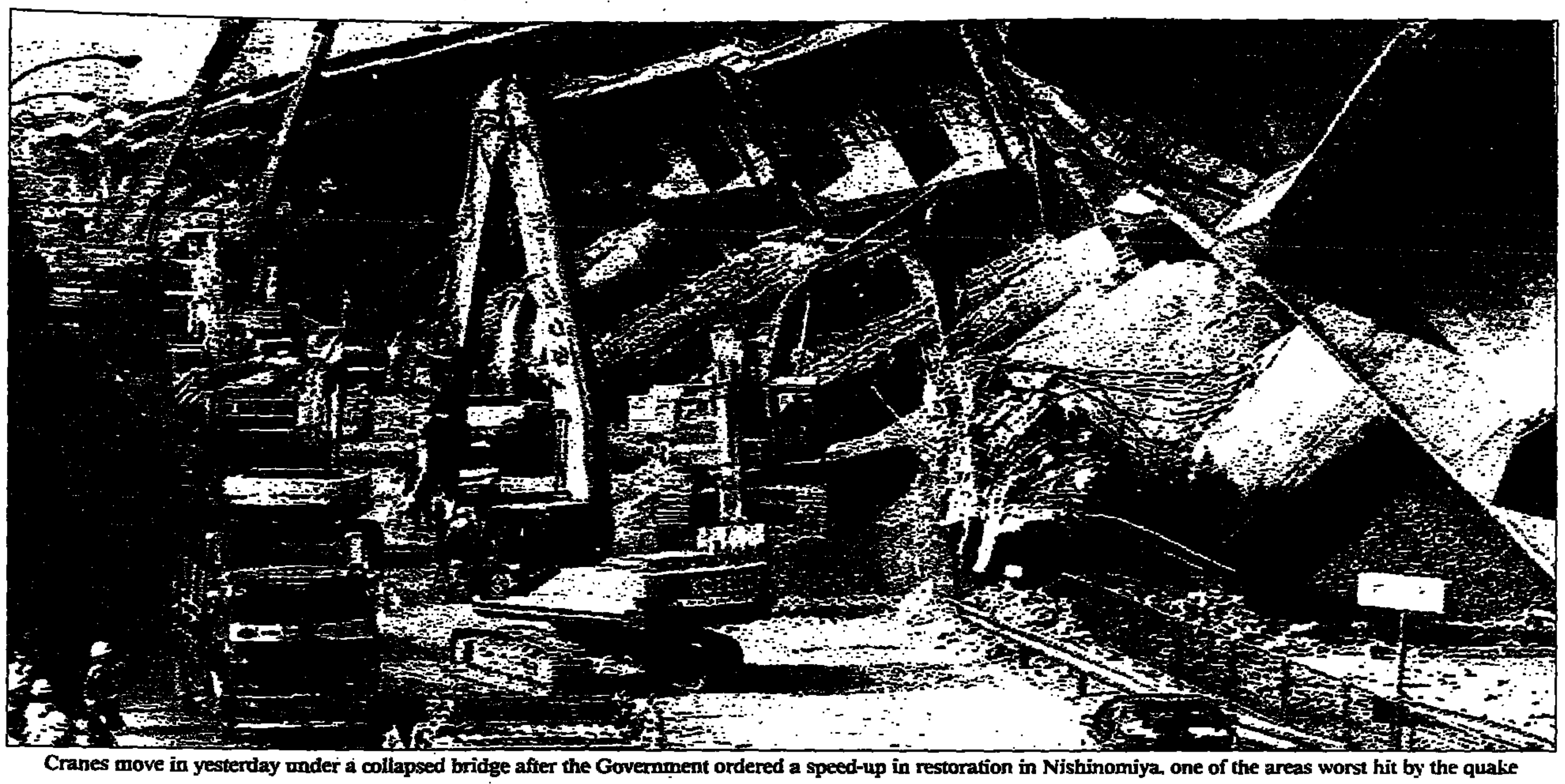
Promise of aid for Kobe fails to silence outcry over rescue delays



Cranes move in yesterday under a collapsed bridge after the Government ordered a speed-up in restoration in Nishinomiya, one of the areas worst hit by the quake

Murayama admits quake failures

FROM GWEN ROBINSON IN TOKYO

TOMIICHI MURAYAMA, the Japanese Prime Minister, last night admitted shortcomings in handling the aftermath of the Kobe earthquake.

Delays in sending troops to help the rescue effort and the revelation that Mr Murayama heard of the quake through a television news programme have resulted in the media turning on the Government.

With the number of dead and missing rising above 5,000, a national record for a natural disaster since the Tokyo quake of 1923, media commentators and quake survivors have blamed the high toll and heavy damage on delays in the response of Government agencies.

Mr Murayama acknowledged that there were shortcomings in the Government's emergency management system to deal with a disaster of such magnitude. In a speech to the Diet he said the Government would "do everything in its power" to increase aid to victims and step up relief services. His pledges, however, did little to soften the mounting outcry in Japan's usually docile mainstream media. TBS, a national television network, said Mr Murayama's speech "sounded more like a bureaucratic address, lacking the caring and kind tones that survivors need to hear". Television stations also gave prominent air time to an old woman, huddled in a makeshift shelter in Kobe, who screamed abuse at Mr Murayama when he toured stricken areas on Thursday.

Comments by other Government ministers and senior officials appeared to do little to stem the backlash, particularly remarks by Tokuo Tamazawa, who heads the Defence Agency. Mr Tamazawa said it was "true that it took a while" for troops to reach the disaster zone. "But we would learn from this experience," he said yesterday.

The two-day delay in the arrival of military personnel to help relief and rescue operations has become a key point of criticism. By yesterday, nearly 15,000 personnel from all branches of the Services had joined rescue operations in Kobe. At least 4,438 people were confirmed dead, with hopes fading for more than 650 people believed to be trapped under rubble for four days. Rescue workers stepped up their efforts amid a series of aftershocks yesterday.

However, there were relatively few survivors among more than 200 bodies pulled from the debris. One man, aged 77, did survive for four days in intense cold, without food or water, under his destroyed home. The number of injured rose to nearly 23,000, as authorities expressed fears of further violent aftershocks or landslides. More than 300,000 homeless people crammed into schools, halls, and other makeshift refuges in and around the city, raising questions about how long education and other public services could remain suspended in a region of more than 2.4 million people. The insanitary conditions have added urgency to the crisis. In most evacuation centres there are more than 100 people to one toilet and little water for flushing or washing, aid workers say.

> ❛ People are getting desperate. They have lost everything and they don't know how they are going to get money or how they're going to feed their families ❜

"There are severe mental as well as physical dangers in keeping people too long in such conditions," Osamu Hiroi, a professor at Tokyo University, said last night. "We need psychologists as well as doctors."

Relief efforts, however, still appear to be concentrated on finding survivors, restoring basic services such as electricity and water, and clearing debris from the streets. The Government has announced plans to build up to 2,000 emergency dwellings, but it remains unclear where the majority of homeless people will go.

In economic terms the disaster is the worst in Japan's history. Economists, who are trying to assess the costs of reconstruction, say they could reach £127 billion.

Most commentators agree that in the long term, the gargantuan task of rebuilding Kobe will act as a stimulus on Japan's economy, generating jobs, business for small and large companies and boosting imports. But in the short term, the price will be heavy. Adding to the financial burdens is the suspension for the time being of commercial shipping operations from Kobe, Japan's second largest port, and the damage inflicted on numerous factories.

Observers in Kobe said yesterday that law and order appeared to be breaking down, although no violence has been reported. In the first two days after the quake, there were no reports of looting, even from shops with goods displayed behind broken windows, nor from houses standing empty.

Now, however, "people are getting desperate," said a shopkeeper who owns a store in an arcade in downtown Kobe. "People have lost everything, and they are worried about their future. They don't know how they're going to get money or how they're going to feed their families." The shopkeeper, a middle-aged woman, said the proprietors in the arcade had decided to form a security team.

New China heroine stays home to keep her husband happy

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

CHINA'S Communist Party's insatiable quest for role models for its people has come up with two new examples: a village that publishes accurate statistics and an army wife whose good deeds inspire near miracles of motivation through the length and breadth of the land.

For decades the Chinese have been told to emulate villagers who hacked prosperous farms out of rocky mountainsides, "iron-men" oil workers who laboured in freezing winters, and students who dived into cesspits to rescue drowning peasants. Above all has towered the legendary hero, Lei Feng, the simple soldier who performed countless altruistic acts for his comrades before dying in an accident. Mysteriously, his anonymous deeds were recorded in official photographs and were later published in a book.

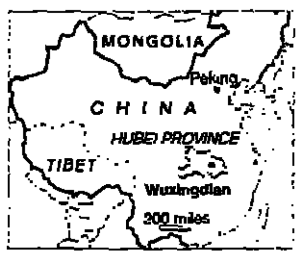
The first of the new models is the town of Wuxingdian in Hubei province, hailed for not using false statistics in its annual production reports and reporting to the authorities "how things really were". This is a considerable achievement. Such high officials as Zhang Sai, director of the State Statistical Bureau, regularly describe widespread "false, negative, corrupt statistics" that make it impossible for the state to formulate accurate plans.

Few women become national models, and those who did in the past were muscular over-fulfillers of production norms in factories or fields. But that Maoist model has been superceded by a different sort of feminine inspiration.

Rather than mining coal or stringing high-tension power cables, she stands by her man. As it happens, with growing unemployment in China, women are being encouraged to give up their jobs in favour of men and to look after their families.

Such a model is Han Suyun "a good military wife". Her domestic behaviour is being given the full propaganda treatment by newspapers, many national organisations and the top levels of the party and the army.

As with Lei Feng, it is all recorded, in this case on video. Copies of this epic of selflessness are being nationally distributed. Ms Han, from a village in the northeast, "defied her parents and neighbours' objections", and moved in with the family of her soldier fiance while he was on active service.



It was a large family and virtually all of its members were ill. Thanks to her undivided attention to his family, Ms Han's husband-to-be rose to become an "outstanding border defence officer".

In a country beset by corruption and greed that has infected even the army, Ms Han's example, says the *People's Daily*, should inspire others "to discover, sum up and promote similar mutual-support examples who love the party, the motherland, the people, and the people's armed forces".

Hers, it is said, "is the development of the Lei Feng spirit". In addition Ms Han has bone cancer in both legs. Because of her, all military wives are being exhorted to support their husbands.

Three military wives at the other end of the country are reported to have "voluntarily asked to be allowed to work at the border . . . to support their husbands", and 46 other military wives have been commended for "not complaining about family problems and for supporting their husbands".

Forty-three officers "in a certain regiment" who had asked to be transferred "have thrown themselves heart and soul into their work". In her home county, cotton farmers "have over-fulfilled the state quota". In Guangdong province in the southeast, "promoting good deeds has emerged among three million women".

Ms Han's husband has appeared on television regretting that he neglected her cancer, which is being cured by an admiring hospital, and she has appeared to tell her life-story in a "21-minute sob-filled speech".

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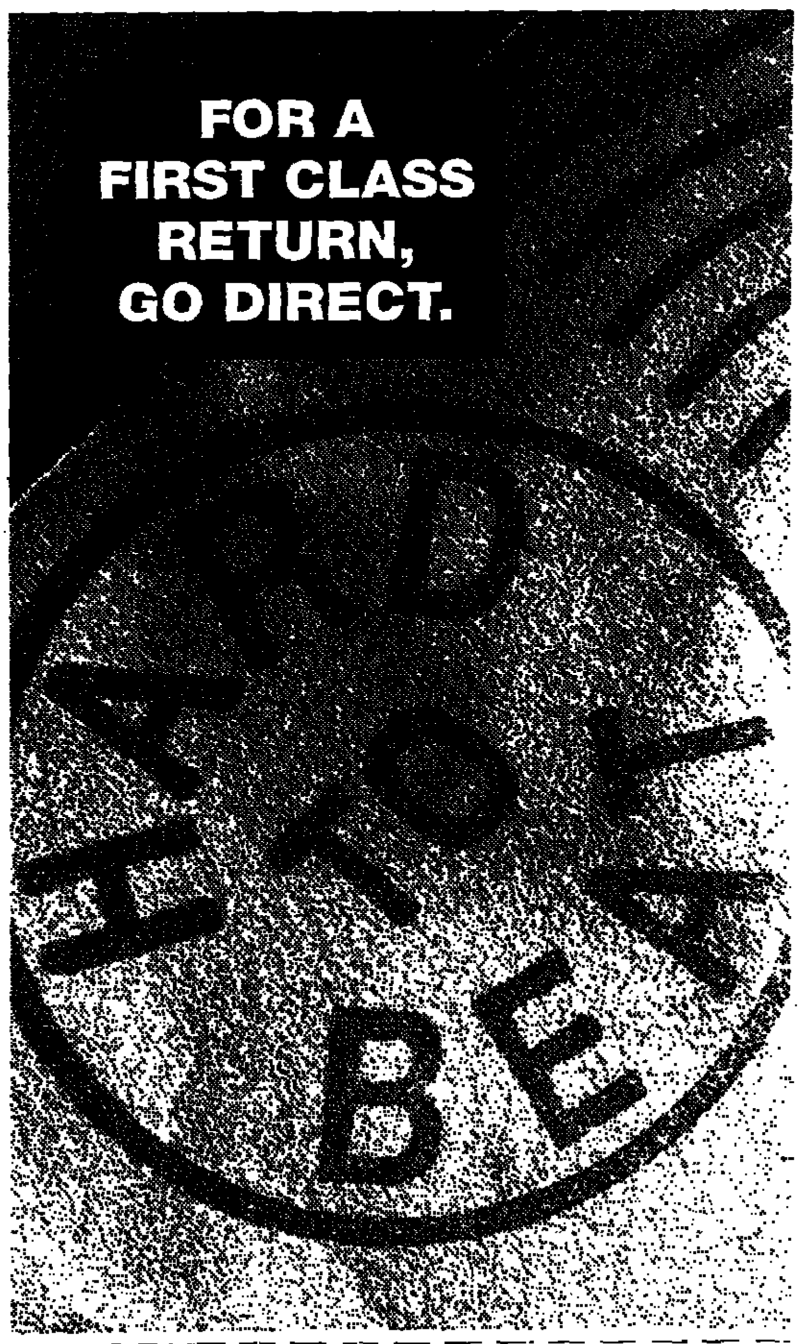
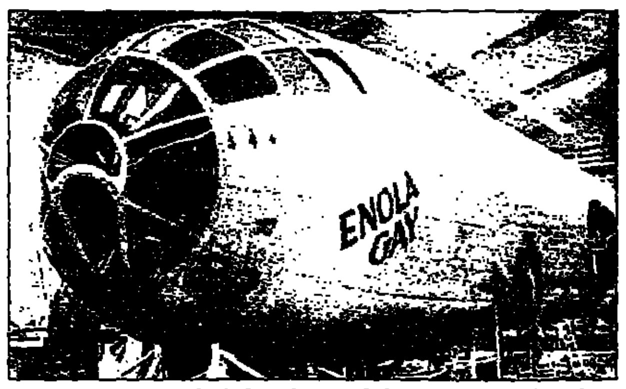


صكرا من الاهل

Veterans' fury fuels dispute over exhibition of the Hiroshima bomber



Enola Gay, the B29 that dropped the Hiroshima bomb

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT TRUMAN said he did not lose a minute's sleep over dropping two atom bombs on Japan. But now, nearly 50 years on, Washington is in uproar over how to commemorate his decision.

Two views of history have collided, pitting liberal historians and peace groups, which say the bombings were immoral, against Second World War veterans who say up to a million Allied lives were saved because Japan surrendered before it had to be invaded. Yesterday, the American Legion demanded the cancellation of a proposed exhibition of the Enola Gay, the B29 which dropped the bomb on Hiroshima, for portraying America as the aggressor. They also called for the dismissal of Martin Harwit, curator of the National Air and Space Museum, which claims to be the world's most popular museum, with 8.2 million visitors last year.

Even more ominously, Republicans on Capitol Hill announced that they would hold hearings into the roles of the museum's parent, the venerable Smithsonian Institution, as custodian of America's history and recipients of millions of dollars in federal funds. In dispute is the degree to which revisionist history has been embraced to ensure conformity with political correctness.

The feud has been simmering for a year since a decision to bring the Enola Gay out of mothballs to mark the 50th anniversary of the war's end. So far, there have been five revisions of the accompanying text and photographs to try to accommodate objections by the veterans and others who said Japan was shown as the victim of America's racist vengeance, rather than the country that started the war. The last straw for the American Legion was a downward revision by the museum of estimates for GIs who would have died in a land invasion from 229,000 to 63,000. After the war Churchill said that at least a million Americans and half-a-million British troops would have been casualties. Between 70,000 and 100,000 Japanese died in Hiroshima and 40,000 in Nagasaki, plus many thousands in subsequent years from radiation sickness.

William Detweiler, Commander of the American Legion, complained that the exhibits questioned Truman's morality in dropping the bomb to end the war quickly. It also suggested to hundreds of thousands of Americans whose lives were spared that their survival was bought at the cost of revenge, Mr Detweiler said. When he was warned by Smithsonian officials of difficulties from academics, Mr Detweiler snapped that without the sacrifice of those who fought in the war, there would be no such community to be concerned about.

Physicians for Social Responsibility, claiming to represent 20,000 health care professionals opposed to nuclear weapons, asked the Smithsonian not to yield to pressure from the legion to sanitise history.

Gurus give Clinton guidance on path back to popularity

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT CLINTON yesterday marked the second anniversary of his inauguration, a wounded and bewildered leader still searching Hamlet-like for a compelling new way forward following November's election rout.

In recent days, he and his wife, Hillary, have quietly invited dozens of politicians, scholars, consultants, "personal-growth" and "peak-performance" gurus, and even journalists, to the White House and Camp David, eagerly soliciting their views on how to salvage a presidency whose early dreams have turned so sour.

Last Saturday alone, more than 20 intellectuals, including a British sociologist and religious thinker, Os Guinness, spent four hours at the presidential retreat in Maryland's mountains, discussing the role of government with the Clintons.

The President has strongly defended these brain-storming sessions, arguing that he would be foolish not to take advantage of some of America's best brains. His critics contend that the meetings merely reinforce the impression that Mr Clinton is a President who does not know what he stands for, and draw mocking comparison with Nancy Reagan's recourse to an astrologer. "It's almost giggle stuff," said Ben Wattenberg, a senior fellow at the conservative American Enterprise Institute.

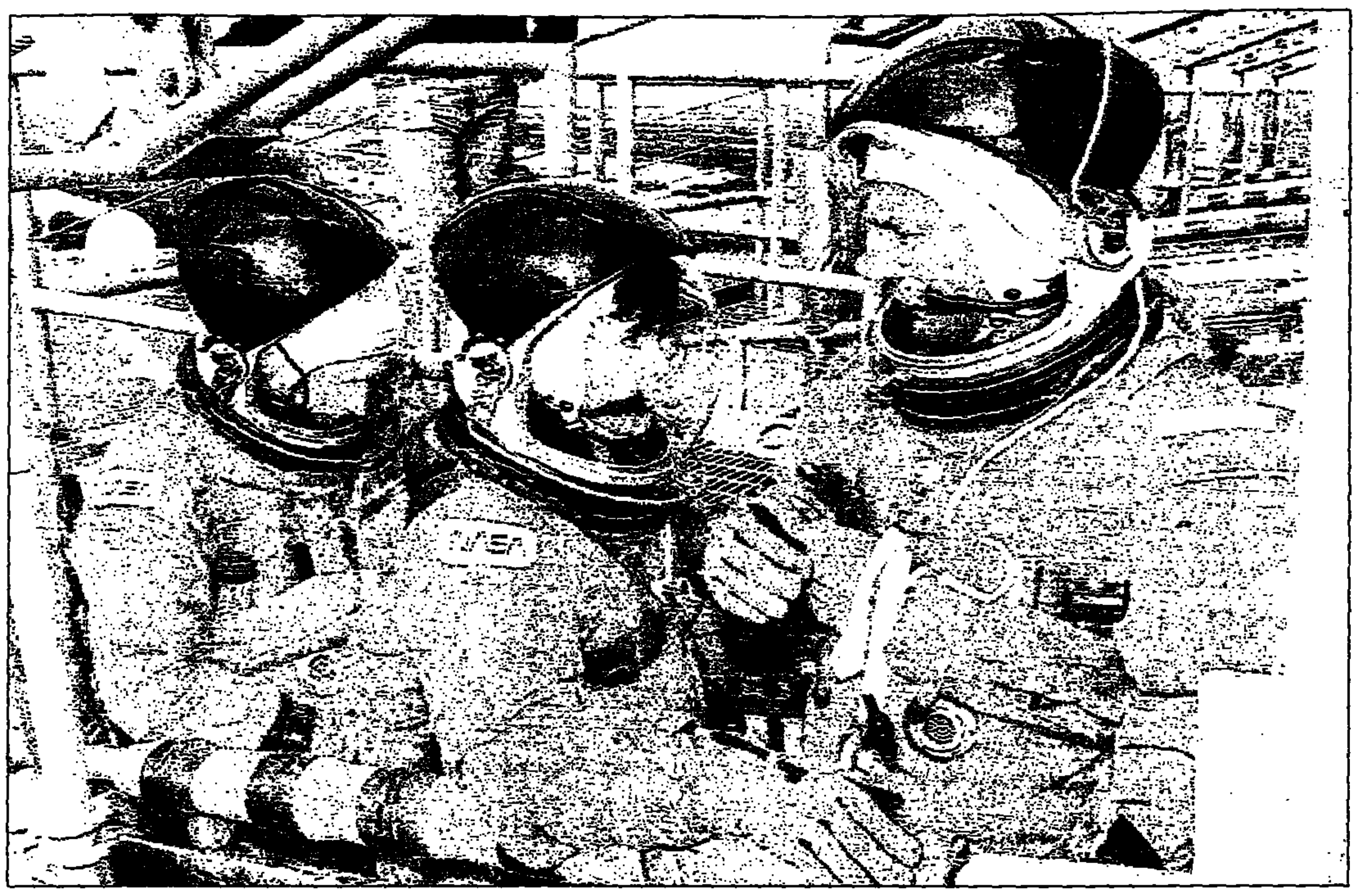
Mr Clinton will disclose the fruits of his consultations in his State of the Union address to Congress next Tuesday. The President is expected to return to the centrist "New Democrat" themes with which he so successfully wooed middle-class suburbanites in the 1992 campaign, in particular the ideas that citizens have responsibilities as well as rights, and that government cannot do everything. He will agree with the Republicans that the federal Government should be pruned, but will argue that it should be leaner, not meaner, and still has a vital role to play in people's lives.

The stakes for Mr Clinton are very high. He has less than a year to rebuild his authority, or he will almost certainly face a challenge for the Democrats' 1996 presidential nomination. Two new polls yesterday showed the scale of the task ahead.

Surveys by CNN-*USA Today* and *The Wall Street Journal*-NBC News gave him approval ratings of 47 and 45 per cent respectively — slightly up but still uncomfortably low considering America's robust economic health. Of the previous four Presidents, only Ronald Reagan had a lower rating midway through his first term, and he was facing a deep recession from which the country had come roaring back by the time of the 1984 election.

The White House "celebrated" yesterday's anniversary by publishing a 37-page report detailing what Leon Panetta, the President's chief of staff, called "an unrivalled record of accomplishment with substantial benefits for millions of Americans". The report plausibly claimed that Mr Clinton had fulfilled or taken action on three-quarters of his election promises. It cited the creation of 5.6 million jobs, the lowest unemployment in four years, the passage of a $700 billion (£448 billion) deficit reduction plan, and the North American Free Trade Agreement. But it acknowledged no failures.

Healthcare reform is listed as "proposed", and the middle-class tax cut that Mr Clinton only called for last month is listed as "pending". The report claims that Mr Clinton has kept his promise "to end welfare as we know it", but the White House has done nothing to push the plan he unveiled last June.



British astronaut Michael Foale, left, joins America's Janice Voss and Russia's Vladimir Titov for training at the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida. They will be on the space shuttle Discovery, to be launched on February 2 on an eight-day mission to the Russian space station Mir

Christopher pledges war on global crime

FROM REUTER IN WASHINGTON

THE US Secretary of State, Warren Christopher, yesterday announced a campaign against international terrorists, criminals and drug traffickers, including tougher laws on asset seizure, visas and the smuggling of illegal immigrants. The State Department planned a "comprehensive strategy" with the Treasury and Justice departments and policing agencies.

He told the John F. Kennedy School of Government in Cambridge, Massachusetts, that international criminals posed direct threats to America and other nations. "They ruin countless lives, destroy property, and siphon away productive resources. They sap the strength of industrialised societies and threaten the survival of emerging democracies." He announced a five-point plan:

☐ to insist that countries extradite or prosecute international fugitives, ensuring they serve tough sentences;

☐ to develop tough asset-forfeiture and money-laundering laws;

☐ to toughen visa standards, making it harder for criminals to enter America;

☐ to combat immigrant smuggling and immigration fraud with harsher penalties;

☐ to expand US laws against terrorists.

Doctor of late heiress files suit on butler's high life

FROM TOM RHODES IN NEW YORK

THE estate of Doris Duke, the tobacco heiress who died two years ago, is at the centre of a bizarre court battle over what her doctor says the butler may have done.

On her deathbed Miss Duke, once considered the richest woman in the world, named Bernard Lafferty as co-executor of her will and effective manager of her estate of $1.2 billion (£800 million). In a Manhattan court yesterday, Harry Demopoulous, her former doctor, sought an injunction declaring the butler unfit to administer the estate.

Dr Demopoulous claims Mr Lafferty has moved into Miss Duke's private quarters and is treating the other servants as if they were his own, "demanding that they wait on him hand and foot". Worse, he alleges, the butler has used estate employees to "assist him in procuring sexual pleasures" and is making them drive him to gay bathhouses, bars and pornography shops.

Papers before the court also claim that Mr Lafferty has used drugs and has been in hospital more than once after alcoholic binges. The butler is said to have been on shopping sprees both before and after his mistress's death, spending $60,000 of her money on clothing, jewellery and other items.

"Lafferty is no more than an officer of this court," Dr Demopoulous says. "He is not entitled to live in her home, sleep in her bed, eat her food, drink her wine, drive and crash her cars, use her servants for his own personal benefit and generally live like a lord. That is, however, precisely what he has done."

Furthermore, he claims to have evidence from Ms Duke's former nurse that the heiress feared she would be murdered. Lawyers for Mr Lafferty reject all the claims.

Baywatch kicks sand in face of TV wimps

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

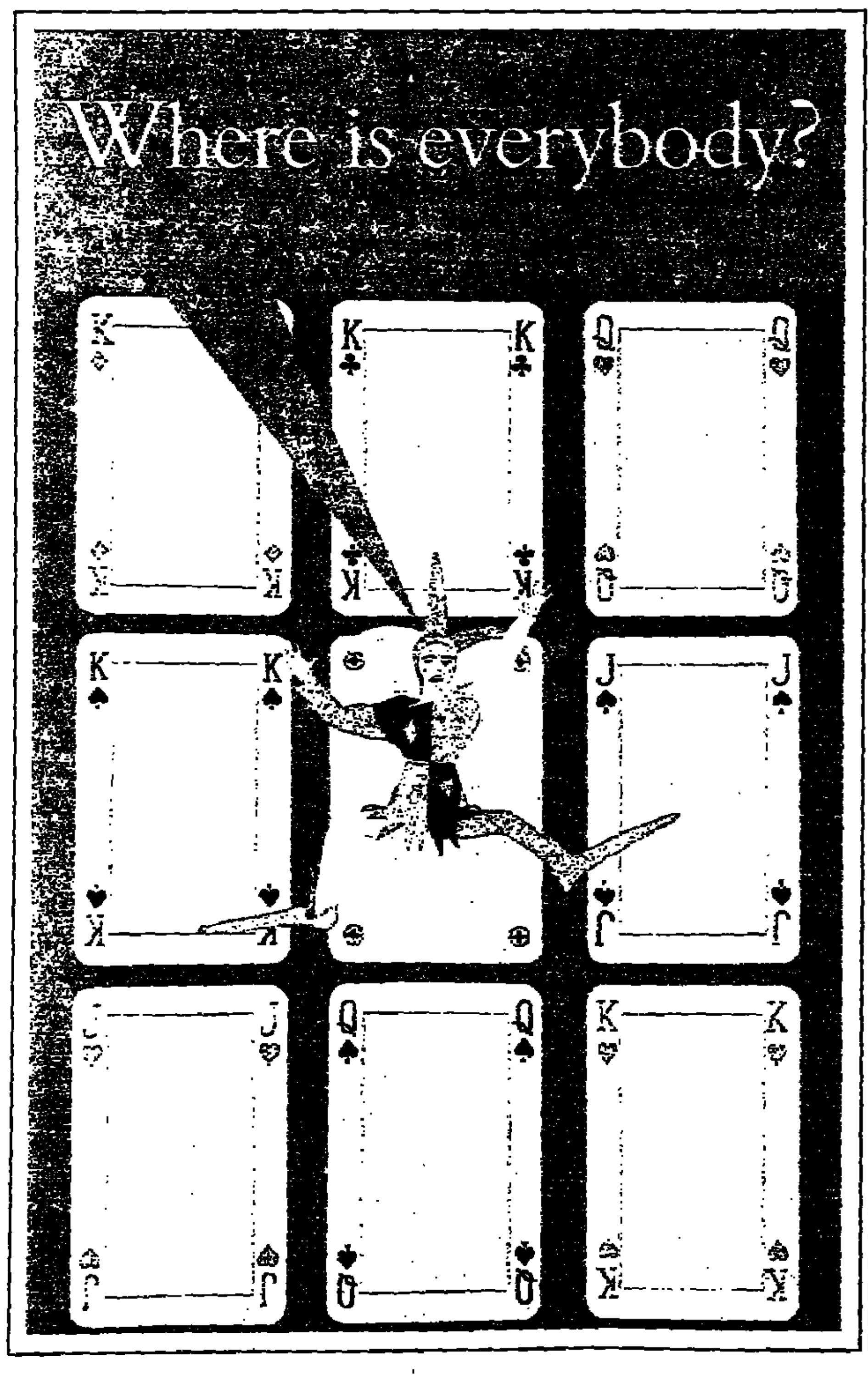
WITH a wave of nautical puns but barely a mention of bikinis, America's most successful television series celebrated the filming of its 100th episode this week.

Baywatch, the long-running homage to Californian sunshine and tight red swimsuits, entered the unofficial hall of fame of American television hits with a lengthy tribute from the in-house organ of the entertainment industry, the *Hollywood Reporter*, and a gleeful dig at the network that cancelled the series after its first season.

America's most watched, if not its most edifying, cultural export is broadcast in 110 countries, including China and Mongolia, and is available via satellite in every region of the world.

Basking in its reputation as a virtually plot-free mixture of wholesome dialogue and well-tanned flesh, the saga of six lifeguards is watched by an estimated billion people a week, causing NBC to rue its decision to axe the series after only 22 episodes in 1990.

The appeal of the series in Britain "is very evident to anyone who goes out into the street in Glasgow in January at 10am hoping to get a look at the sun before it goes down", says Paul Talbot, who masterminds its global distributions.


Where is everybody?

Britons head for Cuba as Marx gives way to the market

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN HAVANA

BRITISH investors and tourists are flocking to Cuba, attracted by the bargains being offered by a dramatic acceleration in the pace of free market economic reforms.

British interest, which has been building for several months, received a boost last September when Ian Taylor, Minister for Trade and Technology, became the first senior official from London to visit Cuba in 20 years, as he led a trade mission. President Castro made a rare appearance at the British Ambassador's residence for a formal dinner with the Minister and a dozen British businessmen.

British exports to Cuba rose sharply in 1994 after dropping in the early 1990s and another trade mission is scheduled next month. With tourist packages selling from £650 a week, British holidaymakers are also appearing in greater numbers on the island.

Spain and Italy remain well ahead of British investors, having taken an early lead by investing in the hotel industry. Americans, who are prevented from doing business in Cuba by a 32-year-old embargo, are also secretly making trips to the island. Cuba has reportedly signed some 90 preliminary agreements with American firms, in the event of the embargo being lifted.

After the collapse of its subsidised commercial ties with the former Soviet Union, Cuba has suffered five years of precipitous economic decline. In 1990 the island began to open up the economy to foreign investment. In 1993 the use of dollars was decriminalised and small, private businesses were permitted. Late last year the Government allowed farmers to sell some of their produce independently.

The results are beginning to show. Some analysts argue that the economic decline has ended and a slow but shaky recovery is beginning.

There are visible signs of free economic activity all over Havana. Signs advertising bicycle repairs, haircuts, manicures or cigarette lighter refills appear in most city streets. Cubans are turning their homes into private restaurants, bed and breakfast accommodation and even clandestine discotheques.

Cubans can now buy meat and vegetables in pesos at open-air markets from farmers, although many people complain that the prices are beyond their reach. Early this month the state opened *El Rapido*, a dollars-only Havana cafe where roller-skating waitresses in mini skirts serve hamburgers and chips.

Experts believe that a riot on the streets of Havana last August, and the exodus of 30,000 Cuban boat people may have prompted Dr Castro to lift restrictions on free economic activity.

But diplomats and economists warn that, despite visible signs of success in the country's dollar economy, this sector caters to a minority of Cubans, as well as a growing number of tourists. They say the Government has yet to begin restructuring large, inefficient state-run industry and agriculture, which are the backbone of the socialist state.

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Santer wins approval for Commission with well-crafted speech but discord persists in parliament

New king of EU courts advice of a skilful sage

STRASBOURG FILE

by GEORGE BROCK

JACQUES SANTER, who takes over as President of the European Commission on Monday, sat in the cavernous, oyster-shaped chamber of the European Parliament in Strasbourg this week and flattered touchy members of the parliament into approving the make-up of his new Commission. As he did so, a slim figure in a pale yellow shirt and red paisley tie could occasionally be glimpsed whispering messages and advice in his ear.

The whisperer was no mere assistant. Jim Cloos, a 39-year-old Luxembourger, is Jacques Santer's *chef de cabinet* or chief of staff, and thus one of the most powerful men in Brussels.

A skilful *chef*, running the Commission President's office and staff, will be more powerful than the weaker members of the Commission itself. Pascal Lamy, Jacques Delors's *chef de cabinet*, was an effective operator, once memorably described as a cross between a paratroop officer and a philosophy don. Mr Cloos is cheerful, less intimidating and may turn out to be even more powerful. Mr Santer may be the Commission's new king, but Mr Cloos is the philosopher. On Wednesday Mr Santer needed to make a speech putting a little distance between himself and John Major to dispel any lingering suspicion that he might enjoy the backing of Britain.

Mr Major's approval is something that anybody who wants to wield power in the corridors of the European Union must avoid at all costs. Mr Cloos duly drafted a pro-integration script designed to make the Prime Minister wriggle uncomfortably.

You have only to listen to Mr Santer speaking without a text to realise that he needs people like Mr Cloos to sharpen and shorten his natural style. Mr Santer is a continental Willie Whitelaw: he can waffle affably for minutes on end while investing his words with the absolute minimum of meaning.

Mr Cloos's career so far illustrates why, despite this week's performance in Strasbourg, the Santer presidency of the Commission will be less nerve-racking for London than the Delors decade. Mr Cloos speaks five languages (Letzebuergesch, French, German, English and Russian) and polished his English at Reading University in the late 1970s.

But while he, like every other Luxembourger, absorbed the ideals of European integration with his mother's milk, he does not share the ignorance and mistrust of British life and politics that marks the outlook of many of his French and German counterparts.

Jacques Santer, left, and his right-hand man, Jim Cloos, centre, are greeted in Paris by Edouard Balladur, the French Prime Minister

Feud splits shrunken ranks of Tory MEPs

ALL is not well among the shrunken 18-strong band of Tory members of the European Parliament, who are due to hold a leadership election among themselves next month, a mere eight months after electing Tom Spencer as their chairman.

Mr Spencer belongs to the group's pro-integration wing and has been upsetting his colleagues by failing to give wholehearted support to John Major's European policy. Mr Spencer's defenders say the Prime Minister's policy is so changeable that staying alongside it is well nigh impossible.

Insults are winging back and forth. Mr Spencer's allies describe their critics as "knuckle-scrapers" and "Nazis". The challengers, who probably will run Bryan Cassidy against Mr Spencer, call the present leadership "federasts". Votes will be counted on February 15.

Mr Spencer, whose advice on how his members should vote over the new Commission was ignored by his own chief whip this week, might like to take advice from José Escudero, a Spanish Christian Democrat MEP. When not in Strasbourg, Señor Escudero works at Madrid's Institute for the Study of the Spanish Inquisition.

Sir Leon awaits fate

IS POOR Sir Leon Brittan about to suffer another snub from Jacques Santer? The European Commissioners will shortly select two of their number to be vice-presidents. Although the posts have little importance, they carry more than £1,000 a month in extra salary. Kremlinologists noted that Sir Leon did not sit next to Mr Santer during the new Commission's appearance before the European Parliament this week. But other observers think he may still land a vice-presidency as consolation for having lost East European policy when jobs were carved up last autumn.

Hungarian Jews remember end of Nazi tyranny

FROM ADAM LEBOR IN *BUDAPEST*

THE strains of Kaddish, the Jewish prayer for the dead, echoed around the walls of the Great Synagogue in Pest, the ancient supplication resounding among the snow-capped gravestones outside.

Crowds of grieving elderly Holocaust survivors mouthed the prayer with students from Budapest's Jewish schools as they stood shivering in the winter cold.

The commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the liberation of the ghetto, attended by Hungarian politicians, international diplomats and Jewish community officials, was one of many events in Eastern Europe to mark the end of the Second World War. It recalled the arrival of the Red Army, which drove out the Nazis and their Hungarian accomplices in the Arrow Cross.

Rabbi Tamas Raj said: "After 50 years there are so few who remember, but here there are not one, but two generations who have learnt from the pages of the past. Remember, and don't forget all those things which your eyes saw. Remember the world and what has disappeared from it."

More than 450,000 Hungarian-speaking Jews, including many from areas now in neighbouring countries such as Romania and Serbia, were deported, murdered, or died under German occupation, according to Lucy Davidowicz, an historian. But in Budapest, where the Germans and their Hungarian accomplices failed to annihilate the ghetto, almost 150,000 survived to be freed.

The Soviet soldiers were met with scenes of horror when they liberated the ghetto. Tens of thousands of freezing and starving Jews were crammed inside, recalled Professor Istvan Fenyo, a Holocaust survivor.

His first sight of the Soviet troops was of a Red Army officer marching towards him, bayonet in hand. "He had a broad Slavic face and he cut off my yellow-star badge. He said, 'You can go now', and my father asked him where to. 'Wherever you want, you are free now,' he replied."

Now 65 and still living in Budapest, Professor Fenyo says it is still hard to talk about the events of 50 years ago. His family converted to Catholicism in 1939, but their new faith proved no protection from the Nazis.

His mother was killed in a concentration camp and his brother died during forced labour in Ukraine. His father survived.

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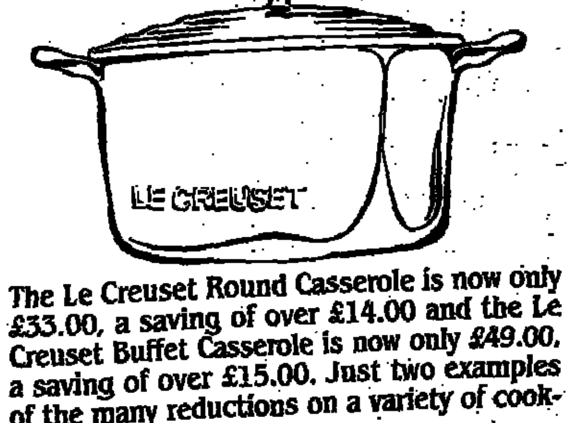

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British helicopters put on standby for Bosnia

By Michael Evans, defence correspondent

EIGHTEEN British helicopters and their crews were put on standby for Bosnia-Herzegovina yesterday as the shaky ceasefire agreed at the end of last month took a serious battering, with mortar and artillery explosions in the "safe area" of Bihac in the northwest of the country.

The reinforcements from Britain were confirmed in a written Commons answer by Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary. Six Chinooks, three of which will remain at their home base ready to leave at a moment's notice, are included in Britain's latest contribution to the United Nations peacekeeping efforts in Bosnia.

The remaining helicopters, six Lynxes and six Gazelles from No. 9 Regiment Army Air Corps, based at Dishforth, North Yorkshire, will go on seven days' notice from the end of the month. The RAF Chinooks, which can each lift ten tonnes, will be from No. 18 Squadron at RAF Laabruch in Germany and No. 7 Squadron at RAF Odiham, Hampshire.

Mr Rifkind said it was essential to send additional resources to Bosnia to support the recent agreement on a cessation of hostilities. A request for reinforcements was made by the UN on January 5 to help to implement the four-month ceasefire agreed by the three warring factions.

Along with the reinforcements being sent by Britain, 19 military observers are also to be deployed to Bosnia.

However, the shelling on Bihac yesterday was a telling warning that the four-month ceasefire might go the way of all previous Bosnian truces. The attacks also undermined hopes that the war might be coming to an end after 33 months.

UN observers in the Bihac pocket counted 52 explosions yesterday and 800 the previous day south of Velika Kladusa, near the Croatian border. It was not immediately clear who was responsible for the attacks.

Velika Kladusa is in an area where Croatian Serbs and rebel Muslims, both allied with Bosnian Serbs, are fighting Muslim-led government forces. Some explosions were also reported near the town of Bihac itself. General Bertrand de Lapresle, the commander of the UN Protection Force (Unprofor) in former Yugoslavia, went to the Bihac area to try to cement the ceasefire.

The Chinooks, whose primary role will be to fetch and carry troops, will be deployed in the UN "safe areas", including Sarajevo, and will come under the command of Lieutenant-General Rupert Smith when he takes over as commander of Unprofor troops in Bosnia next Tuesday. The Chinooks will carry troops to monitor the ceasefire along the confrontation lines.

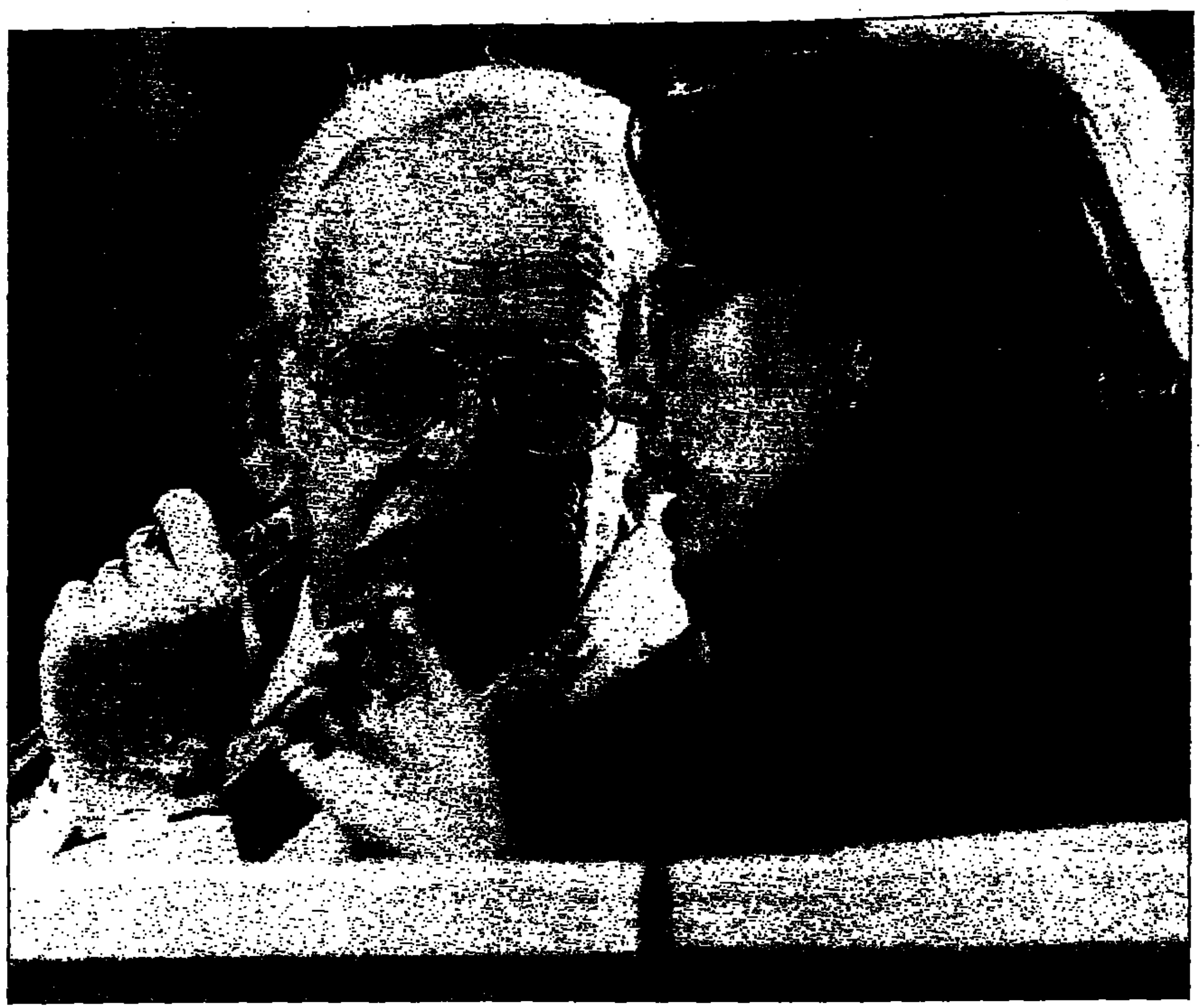
The six Lynx helicopters, including an advance party of two to act as communications aircraft, and the six Gazelles will be used for air reconnaissance and transport. Four Royal Navy Sea King helicopters of 845 Squadron from Yeovilton have been based at the British barracks near the Croatian port of Split for the past two years.

In announcing the new resources for Bosnia, Mr Rifkind said that the international community needed to "grasp the opportunities" arising from the ceasefire agreement signed on December 31.

Rose says farewell

Pale: Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose, the United Nations commander in Bosnia, bade farewell to Bosnian Serb leaders yesterday before ending his job as head of the UN Protection Force (Unprofor) on Tuesday.

The British officer, largely credited with saving Sarajevo from a Serb siege last February, met Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, in Pale. He also saw President Izetbegovic of Bosnia in Sarajevo, and General Ratko Mladic, the commander of Bosnian Serb forces, in Jahorina. General Rose will be replaced by another Briton, Major-General Rupert Smith. *(Reuter)*



Prince Rainier of Monaco and his daughter, Princess Caroline, at this week's opening of the principality's annual circus festival, which attracts acts from around the world who compete for a prize given by him

Brussels fishing policy leaves bad odour in its wake

From Wolfgang Münchau in Brussels

IF THE Common Fisheries Policy did not exist, no one would dream of inventing it. The policy, reviled by virtually everyone affected, has impoverished fishermen, raised the price of fish, and become a bane for politicians.

William Waldegrave, the Agriculture Minister, was accused in the Commons this week of striking a bad deal when he agreed last month to let 40 Spanish boats into the Celtic Sea. However, the critics forget that Mr Waldegrave *did not have a leg to stand on* in the negotiations with his *European colleagues.*

Under the 1985 accession treaty to the European Union, Spain was entitled to send up to 70 boats, and the deal turned out to be as unpopular in Spain as it was in Britain. If the fishermen have a complaint, they should direct it to Baroness Thatcher and her ministers, who negotiated the treaty.

The trouble with the fisheries *policy lies not* with Mr Waldegrave or the Spanish Government, but in the document's conflicting objectives. It aims to sustain fish stocks and simultaneously to cater for the short-term economic and social interests of fishermen. The main instruments are national quotas and overall "ceilings" for more than 100 species of fish. These are set by European ministers on the basis of *scientific estimates, but* are then usually adjusted upwards for political reasons. The result, as the European Commission acknowledges, is *that more fishermen compete* for fewer fish. In the Celtic Sea, stocks of cod, whiting, plaice and sole are running dangerously low.

There are only two ways out of this dilemma: a system of centrally set rules and enforcements, or some form of privatisation or licensing of the resource itself. But there are practical difficulties with enforcement. Despite extensive *and expensive supervision,* illegal catches are estimated to *be running at between 10 and* 20 per cent of the total. The EU's response has been one of more enforcement, such as satellite surveillance and computerised log books.

Fundamental flaws may eventually necessitate fundamental change. A radical proposal was put forward last year by Frederico Foders, an economist at the Kiel Institute of World Economics. He suggested a *system of "individual* fishing rights" — licences that would give fishermen the right to fish in a designated area, for so many days a week, without competition.

The licence itself would have a market value, based upon how much fish remains in the area. Licences could be traded on a "fish exchange". Such a system would encourage fishermen to maintain stocks, and *obviate the need for costly* enforcements.

British trawlermen are fighting for their livelihoods

German Jewish call for Holocaust day

From Agence France-Presse in Bonn

A LEADER of the Jewish community in Germany has suggested that there be a day of remembrance for the victims of Nazi extermination on May 8, the fiftieth anniversary of Germany's Second World War surrender.

Michel Friedman, a leader of the Christian Democratic Union of Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, made the suggestion in an interview with the Cologne-based *Express* newspaper yesterday. "In Germany there is no remembrance day for the victims of the Holocaust. I am certainly no partisan of remembrance days, but I do see the validity of such a day, which might as well be May 8.

"Such a day *should not be* directed against any guilty conscience. Rather, by remembering the Holocaust one can develop the strength needed to prevent anything like that ever happening again." Herr Friedman said he feared resurgent extreme-right violence this year, and called for greater vigilance from the security authorities.

But he expressed relief that, according to a survey, 70 per cent of Germans regarded May 8 as a day of liberation from dictatorship rather than a defeat. Herr Friedman also said that a Holocaust memorial should be erected in Berlin, because apart from the concentration *camp sites* Germany had no such *memorials.*

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Within the last year there have been TV commercials - naming no names - which cost £1.8 million, £1.2 million and £800,000.

It's baffling how any 60 seconds of celluloid can cost such vast sums when the BBC can make a whole hour of TV drama for a relatively meagre £400,000.

But the costs of television don't stop there. Once you've made the commercial, you still have to air it, and air time is costly.

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TIMESCAPE

Bahrain presses for Hurd talks on asylum-seekers

By Michael Binyon, Diplomatic Editor

THE Bahraini Foreign Minister, Shaikh Muhammad al-Khalifa, is flying to London on an emergency visit next week *to discuss* the request by three Bahraini *Shia* opposition clerics for political asylum in Britain.

Shaikh Muhammad decided at short notice to visit London *after a scheduled* trip to Paris because of the diplomatic embarrassment caused by the arrival in Britain of Shaikh Ali Salman, whose arrest in December caused widespread rioting in Bahrain. He was deported on Sunday and arrived in Britain on Tuesday.

In his first interview since applying for asylum, Shaikh Ali, 27, told *The Times* that his arrest on a charge of inciting the disruption of a young people's *marathon* was only a pretext. The real reason was his role in gathering 25,000 signatures on a petition demanding the restoration of the Bahraini parliament and the 1975 *constitution*. A *senior* preacher, he returned to Bahrain two years ago after five years' *study in the holy city of* Qom, Iran.

The ruling al-Khalifa family in Bahrain has long been deeply suspicious of Iran's *motives in the Gulf* and is fearful that Tehran is trying to export Shia radicalism. But Shaikh Ali denied it was his Iranian background that led *to his expulsion, with that of* Shaikh Hamza al-Deiri and Sayed Haidar al-Setri. "It is not only Islamists who have called for our rights. We have *been joined by Sunnis* and leftists and secularists."

Chosing his words carefully, Shaikh Ali would not be drawn into any condemnation of the ruling family *as corrupt*. "It is the system, not the family, that is inadequate. It is a backward system that is unsuited to conditions today."

The political *demands* of the three deportees were limited to a restoration of the constitution; he believed that that would lead to a fairer *representation of Shias* in the Bahraini Government. Now comprising between 60 and 85 *per cent of the population*, Shias are virtually unrepresented in key ministries such as defence, education and the interior.

Soft-spoken and wearing traditional robes, Shaikh Ali has never been outside Iran and the Gulf, but expressed no shock at coming to a Western *society so different from that* favoured by his religious views. "I am comfortable in Britain because this country believes in the rule of law," he *said. A former chemistry student* in Saudi Arabia, he has no plans to make contact here with Dr Muhammad al-Massari, a leading Saudi Islamist *dissident* who *is appealing* against a refusal of his asylum application.

However, he criticised bitterly the involvement of Brit*ons in Bahrain's security* apparatus, naming especially Ian Henderson who has supervised the country's security system, and another Briton *who, he said, headed the team* that decided on his deportation. *Shaikh* Ali said that Islamists did not see an inevitable clash with the West, although he agreed *that* political differences *often got* in the way.

He called for a fresh dialogue between the Islamic movement and Christian leaders, *including church leaders* in Britain.

The three deportees were worried that Shaikh Muhammad, who is seeking talks with Douglas Hurd, the Foreign *Secretary*, would *put strong* pressure on the Government to refuse them asylum. He and other Islamic preachers had been subject to harassment *since* their first petition in November 1992, were often called in for questioning, and had been shadowed by security officials.

Shaikh Ali: arrest led to rioting in Bahrain

Shaikh Hamza: a chief opposition cleric

F. W. de Klerk, South Africa's Second Deputy President, opening his party's national congress this week

De Klerk and Mandela heal rift over apartheid amnesty

From Michael Hamlyn in Johannesburg

DETERMINATION to let bygones be bygones and a hand*shake on the lawn of President* Mandela's residence *settled* the most dangerous threat so far to the stability of South Africa's multiracial coalition Government.

F. W. *de* Klerk, *the Second* Deputy President, who on Thursday evening declared that he had been viciously insulted at the previous day's Cabinet meeting, *issued* a joint *statement* with Mr Mandela yesterday which reaffirmed the belief of each in the "integrity and good faith" of the other. Mr de Klerk *declared himself satisfied and* the two men undertook to make a fresh start.

The meeting took up much of the day and also involved Thabo Mbeki, the First Deputy President, R. F. "Pik" Botha, the *former* Foreign Minister who is *now* Minister for Mining and Energy Affairs, and Roelf Meyer, the Minister for Constitutional Affairs.

Sydney Mufamadi, the Minister of Safety and Security, who has charge of the nation's police, was also present. He is required, under the terms of the joint agreement, to prepare a formula to settle the issue that caused the row between the two men. This is the matter of indemnity from civil rights prosecution of 3,500 *policemen and at least* two former Cabinet ministers.

In the course of the Cabinet argument, Mr Mandela threw doubt on Mr de Klerk's good faith over the indemnity issue, affirmative action and the *programme for reconstruction* and development.

Mr Mufamadi and Dullah Omar, the Justice Minister, were instructed to prepare a *formula for dealing* with the *indemnity issue to be* considered at the next Cabinet. At a brief press conference, Mr Mandela spoke of the need to remove "insecurity from the *security forces*" *in this way*.

Mr de Klerk said that, had the talks not proceeded as well as they had, he would have been announcing the withdrawal of the National Party *from the coalition*. But he insisted that "we want the Government of National Unity to succeed". Mr de Klerk's National Party, meanwhile, has held its first national congress of the new era. It *opened, to the surprise of* some delegates, with a multiracial choir singing traditional Afrikaans songs. These were suddenly interrupted by town*ship ballads* and even a *dance* accompanied by kwela music, typical of urban black culture.

Another significant break from the practice of previous years was pointed out by *Fanus Schoeman, the executive* director of the party. Introducing a policy document on education, he indicated that past congresses had been *platforms for ministers* to explain policy to delegates. "Instead we are going to listen to what they say to us," he said, adding: "It is a completely different approach."

Two more Britons seized by rebels

By Michael Binyon

REBELS in Sierra Leone yesterday seized two more British employees of a Swiss-*owned bauxite mine, adding* to fears for ten other staff kidnapped yesterday by opponents of the military Government of Captain Valentine Strasser.

Guerrillas said they would start killing the hostages unless foreign countries, especially Britain, stopped arming the Government.

The latest kidnap victims were named as Peter White and Andrew Young. The rebels now hold six Britons. Early reports on Thursday *that five Britons had been* seized proved exaggerated: only two were held in that raid. They were named as *James Westwood*, managing *director of the Sierra Leone* Ore and Metal company, and Ross Mills, the operations manager. However, two workers for *Voluntary Service Overseas have* been held since November.

British officials reported yesterday that diplomats in Freetown had *established direct radio contact* with the VSO hostages for the first time in several weeks, and confirmed that they were well and in reasonably good spirits. The *Foreign Office denied that* any direct link had been made by the rebels of the Revolutionary United Front between the two Britons' safety and a *threat by the Sierra Leone* Government to execute an officer accused of working with the guerrillas.

The threat to kill the foreign hostages was conveyed to the *British High Commission* by Mr Westwood's wife, Sheila. Other threats were sent through local mine employees who were kidnapped and *released*.

Government troops yesterday secured the area where the latest kidnappings occurred, and were searching for the guerrillas.

Burma freedom hopes fade

From Reuter in Bangkok

HOPES for the imminent release of Aung San Suu Kyi, Burma's dissident democratic leader, faded *yesterday* after *the Rangoon junta said* that she would be freed only when a constitution, now being written, is completed.

Rangoon-based diplomats said *it could take three years* before the drawn-out constitutional process reaches a conclusion, but pointed out that under the regime's laws, Daw Suu Kyi's sentence *expires in July*. Thaksin Chinnawat, the Thai Foreign Minister, said on Thursday after returning from Rangoon that he had asked Burma's ruling generals about Daw Suu Kyi, and had been told *that the constitutional* convention must finish its work first. "They will not release her until the constitution is complete," he said.

The convention, which has been drawing up the basic guidelines of a new charter under the junta's auspices since January 1993, has completed *only* three *of the* 15 sections that the constitution is to consist of. One Rangoon-based diplomat said it was not clear what the junta meant when it said the constitution must be completed before the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize laureate is released.

Daw Suu Kyi, 49, was first placed under house arrest in July 1989 on vague charges of endangering *the state*.

Under the military government's law, a period of house arrest can last a maximum of five years. But a senior junta *official said last* year *that* her *first year of detention* was an "arrest period" and her period of detention began only in July 1990.

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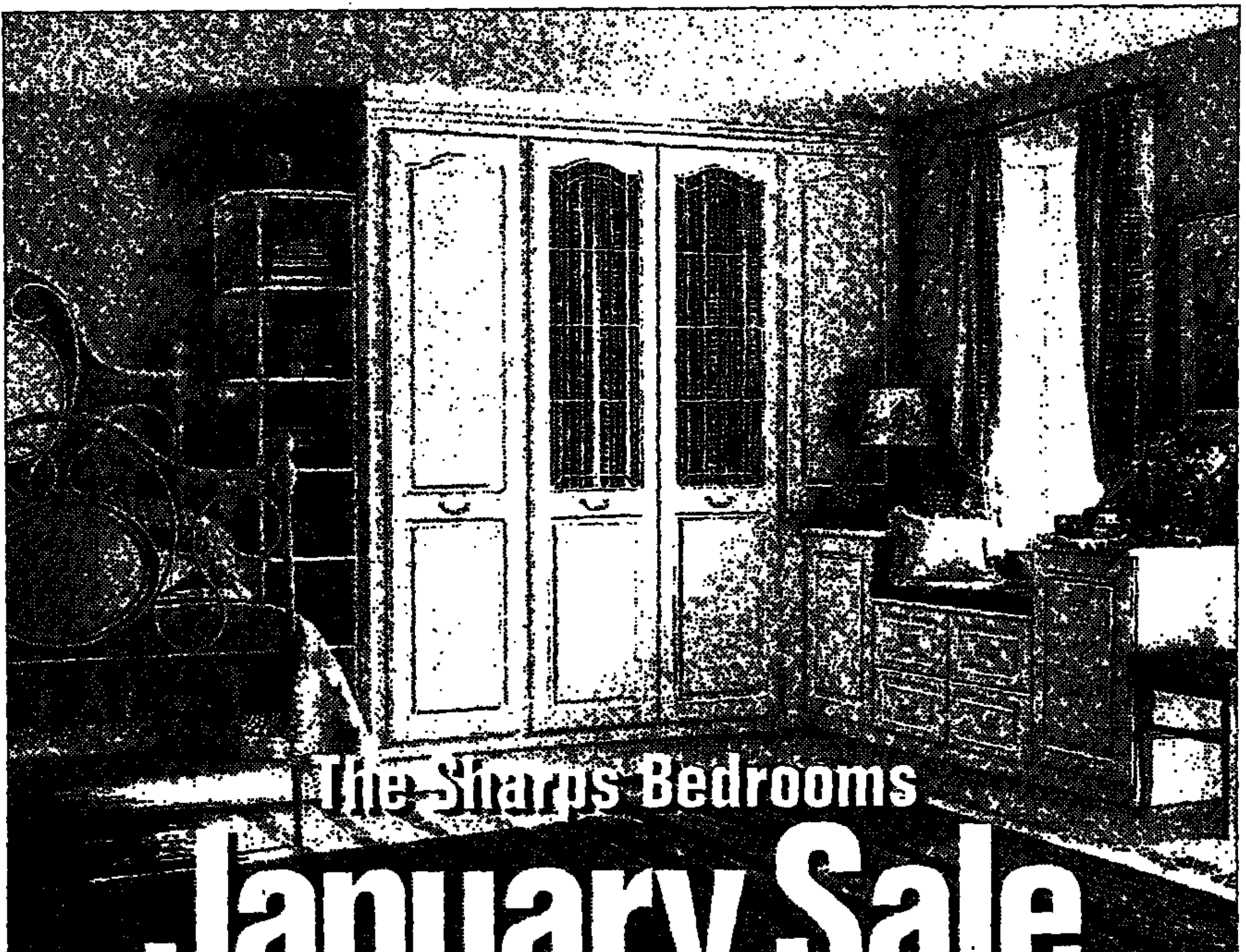

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Don't let a tiff tear us Tories apart

Nicholas Budgen on why the rebels want the whip back

I *suggest that we all from* every section of the Conservative Party calm down *and remember that our prejudices* do not become true for all time simply because they are *repeated for us by kindly* journalists. This rift over Europe is ridiculous. Bad luck and *mismanagement* got the Government into this jam. Generosity and firm leadership will get us out of it.

We eight or nine Tory so-called rebels have been given an importance in the eyes of the media which we never expected. Why for instance are Teddy Taylor's views on Europe of greater interest than those of Peter Shore? Why do the views of the nine attract more attention than those of the 40 or so Labour MPs who were opposed to paying more money to Europe on November 28?

We are of interest because we were kicked out of the Tory parliamentary party. Once we are back in, our views become of no more interest than any other section. So what is stopping the Government giving us back the whip?

First there is pride. Whoever thought up the idea of making the vote on the extra money to Europe an issue of confidence got it wrong. It had worked over Maastricht. It did not work over the Euro money, not least because we had the time (12 days) between the threat and the vote to consider the basis upon which the threat was made. The Government would not have lost the Bill on the Euro money if it had left it as an ordinary vote. Even if it had lost the Bill it could have survived a later motion of confidence put down by the Opposition. All that is water under the bridge. It must be worth a little loss of face to downgrade us and put us in our place.

> As a result of this row the public wants looser ties with Europe

Second, *the Prime Minister* and the Cabinet will realise that as a result of this row the *people have spoken and they* have spoken in a clearly Euro-sceptical manner. Events have *overtaken us all.* Every day brings a new example of the difficulties of the European *constitution. Why give up the* Irish Box to Spanish fishermen? What's this about qualified *majority voting? What a* nonsense over those calves and sheep! We cannot stop the *trade because of European* laws and yet we have no real power to ensure that the *animals are well looked after* in Europe. What's more, if such powers were given to the *European constitution* they could as easily be used against us as on our behalf.

What is the evidence of this Euro-sceptical change of view? We nine have survived so far. At first John Major tried to crush us. It was suggested that we were the cause of the loss of the Dudley West by-election. Then came further pressure from the PM's new year message to constituency chairmen, but in spite of all this the Conservative associations know that the Euro-sceptics are supported by a significant proportion of the public.

Third, there is the attitude of the Euro-enthusiasts in the Cabinet. No doubt they feel a *considerable irritation* at the attention given to our views. It seems to them like a disturbance *of the proper hierarchy* of politics. In spite of our lack of position the public increas*ingly registers its support* for a looser relationship with Europe.

There are, I suspect, two leading figures in this matter. Ken Clarke is a natural leader, brave, vigorous and self-confident. He is a confirmed Europhile, yet he was able to work with loyalty and conviction under Mrs Thatcher. When he does not know for sure where the limits of policy lie, he will push and shove for his view. Every moment of Cabinet indecision is an encouragement to him. Douglas Hurd again is a distinguished public servant who has worked with precision under Mrs Thatcher, whose views must often have conflicted with his. He again will accept a clearly defined and understood Cabinet policy.

The true barrier to the acceptance by the Cabinet of a more nationalistic line on Europe is uncertainty. The Prime Minister is *primus inter pares*. The full status of the interview that he gave on January 8 to David Frost must be made clear. It represented an important statement of policy and action for both the single currency and the inter-governmental conference in 1996. And yet Douglas Hurd did not speak in the language of the Frost programme when he spoke in France a few days later. Ken Clarke continues to hanker after the single currency. The whole Tory party can unite behind clear, firm and settled leadership.

Finally, let me dispose of this talk of conditions. We nine are, or ought to be, *mere* backbench Members of Parliament. We cannot ask for *special concessions of policy* before we return to the party. If policy becomes more Euro*sceptical it will be because* events and public opinion have demanded it and not *because of any special deal* given to us.

Equally the party cannot *demand that we become sec*ond-class Members of Parliament. If any of us were given a *job (I agree a most unlikely* event), we would be bound by collective responsibility. Oth*erwise, as backbenchers*, we must retain the right to attempt to influence events on *behalf of our constituents. You* could not have Tony Marlow bound hand and foot while *Bill Cash ranges free.*

There's no need for this tiff to be blown up into an historic *event.* We do not want to be remembered as the Disraelis or the Lord George Bentincks of our generation. We should like to muddle our way towards a looser relationship with Europe and to work to keep out the Labour Party and its federalism at the next general election.

A little generosity and a little good sense and then we can slip back into the no doubt well-deserved obscurity from which we came.

The author is Tory MP for Wolverhampton South West.

The French like their Presidents to be regal — and Edouard Balladur fits the bill, says **Charles Bremner**

When in France, vote aristocrat

If you want to run a country, you have to convince the people, however implausibly, that you are one of them. The rule, ancient in the case of American Presidents, has been adopted in the media age by just about every democracy. In Germany, Helmut Kohl knocks back the beer with the workers. Silvio Berlusconi seduced the proletariat with his television glitz and game shows. George Bush claimed affection for *pork rinds* and country music but came unstuck in the face of the slang and saxophone of Bill Clinton. At election time in supposedly class-ridden Britain, Old Etonians flatten their vowels and party leaders present themselves as ordinary blokes who drop in at the off-licence. One country, however, is once again proving itself the exception to this rule — France.

You would have to go back to Harold Macmillan or Alec Douglas-Home to find anything approaching a British parallel to Edouard Balladur, the exquisitely mannered Prime Minister whose advancement to the presidency in the spring is viewed as a foregone conclusion. *Noblesse oblige* oozes from every pore of M Balladur's finely tailored frame.

The epitome of old-world manners and elegant understatement, M Balladur, 65, a high civil servant by career, makes almost no concession to informality, except for curbing his affection for the fussy imperfect subjunctive. He flinches from any display of emotion. Even as a young graduate of the Ecole nationale de l'administration (ENA), cradle of the governing caste, he required his closest colleagues and own children to address him as "vous" rather than "tu". When, as a would-be minister, he consented in 1986 to stand for an election, he wore a hat so he could tip it to the voters of the 15th arrondissement of Paris rather than shake their grubby hands. This Edwardian demeanour and his patronage of Savile Row often causes him to be dubbed *un gentleman anglais*, but the tag is wrong. No British gent would survive in politics long with such airs. The reality is that M Balladur is not a throwback so much as striking proof that two centuries after it guillotined the *ancien régime*, France still hankers for aristocratic *hauteur* in its leaders.

If anointed, M Balladur will join a line of monarchical heads of state since Charles de Gaulle founded the directly elected presidency three decades ago. With the exception perhaps of the very erudite but earthy Georges Pompidou, who died in 1974, the others have already possessed or enthusiastically donned regal airs. Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, a scion of the haute bourgeoisie, came a cropper when he tried out a populist style in the 1970s. He earned nothing but scorn when, as President, he played the accordion, chatted with dustmen and "dropped in" for dinner with working-class families.

François Mitterrand made no such mistake when he was elected as the people's champion in 1981, plunging with glee into the pomp of the Elysée Palace. To take another example, Jacques Delors, who turned down the Socialist candidacy, may have had humble origins but he could hold his own with the haughtiest.

The explanation for this facet of what de Gaulle called *l'exception française* lies with France's enduring deference to the superior ability of a governing class with its own codes and privileges. Elite is not a dirty word in a highly centralised country in which *l'appareil d'état* and the high business world are dominated by a caste of super-educated technocrats. In their defence, members of the caste argue that their upper crust is a meritocracy unlike, they say, Britain's system where blood and public schools pave your way to the top. There is some truth in this because the ENA, which was founded by de Gaulle in 1948 and whose 4,600 graduates hold the lion's share of the top posts, is open to the best and brightest of all origins. In reality, however, it and the other Grandes Ecoles draw from the upper social reaches.

French history is studded with the explosions that arise from the split between the governors and the people. In this electoral season, it is again the fashion to deplore the schism between *les administrés* and the class of politician civil servants, who include M Balladur and much of his Cabinet, as well as the Socialist Governments of M Mitterrand. Jean-Jacques Duyeproux, a sociologist, complained this week that, on the eve of the 21st century, France is divided between "a race of seigneurs and the rabble".

The topic of the season for the political classes is a work by Emmanuel Todd, an eminent thinker, which pins France's ills to the breakdown of the "vertical" bonds that used to *anchor the* elite to the voters. The signs are clear, he says, in the revolt against Maastricht and in the support for *Bernard Tapie and other* working-class populists. In the vacuum left by the collapse of the left-wing party, he says, post-industrial France is breeding a disaffected *nouveau peuple*.

Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader and civil servant *énarque* (ENA graduate), has drawn heavily on M Todd's treatise to cast himself in the campaign as a people's champion against the effete technocracy, as represented by his erstwhile adviser M Balladur. But the approach is failing, in part because the Mayor of Paris, and former Prime Minister, is himself so much a member of that royal technocracy.

It seems that M Todd may be a little carried away with his theory. M Balladur is certainly not loved but he is respected as the man who knows best for the country. Much of the grumbling to which he is subject is that of the old lower orders for the toffs of the officer class. For all the pundits' talk of dangerous alienation among the poor and unemployed, some 58 per cent of the voters are still telling pollsters they are ready to elevate the haut bourgeois who this week sought their support so grandly from his gilded office in the Prime Minister's mansion.

Farmer, preserve that farm

In the prosperous Britain of 1995, agriculture has more to do with conservation than food production

Simon Jenkins

Out beyond Castleton, the Hope Valley rises towards Winnats Head and the peaks of Derbyshire. Over it towers Mam Tor, the Shivering Mountain, currently cloaked in rain, its disused mines spewing water and shale into the streams beneath. This is a mysterious land of pots and tors, of Blue John Cavern and Starvehouse Mine. On its slopes the hill farmers of High Peak can be seen struggling against the elements. They are the forgotten flotsam of the common agricultural policy. Each tide of subsidy washes them higher up the mountain, then leaves them to the mercy of scavenging bank managers.

But hard below Treak Cliff lies salvation. The cosy domain of Dunscar Farm has been worked part-time by Anne and John Vessey for 35 years. It comprises 72 acres, 80 *sheep and a dozen* cattle. Last week the Vesseys gave it all to *the* National Trust. Dunscar's old field system is intact. The *meadows have never* been deep ploughed. Wind*blown copses shel*ter a grateful population of voles and sparrows. Farm buildings date from *1700. When the Vesseys arrived to* preserve all this in 1960, the soil had not been scarred by a single tractor. *Dunscar is a farm of the past.*

Dunscar is now a farm of the future. It is a symbol of the New *Agriculture, aptly described by the* National Trust as honouring the ideal of "an open air living room" for the use of town-dwellers. This should soothe the fervid brows of the Shoreham crusaders and the battalions of Brightlingsea. There will be no call for riot shields in Castleton store. Crates, batteries and Euro-juggernauts do not fill the lanes of Hope Valley. Dunscar is to be an enchanted landscape of gambolling lambs, prancing calves and bantams ranging free. This is farming with a conscience, farming to make you feel good. It is novelist-friendly and actress-friendly. Here are the Très Riches Heures of the dukes of heritage England. Such farms have nothing whatever to do with the economic production of food.

Last week brought home to me the latest "paradigm shift" in our attitude to agriculture. British farming and fishing are no longer part of the world food industry. They are a branch of conservation. New lobbies now rule the roost, some of them peculiarly nasty. The common agricultural policy cannot buck the market for ever, though it will doubtless try. Sooner or later somebody will fish the ocean empty. Sooner or later Asia and Central Europe will produce all the grain we need, and Africa and South America all the meat. Like the states of New England, Western Europe will be a countryside of woods, parks and suburbs. Fish will come from tanks. Animals will all be pets. Woods and hedges will proliferate.

We already pay farmers not to farm and fishermen not to fish. We turn both into *state* subcontractors and tax ourselves until the *pips squeak to* do so. Under environment management *and stewardship* schemes, farmers are rewarded for *serving us with* "living rooms" to order. I note this week a proposal to reintroduce wolves into *the Scottish Highlands, where they* will doubtless live off calves liberated by eco-activists. The cruelties of *nature are somehow more agreeable* than the supposed cruelties of farmers. Now that urban man pays rural *man what amounts to a salary*; he expects moral peace of mind and a bit of fun in return.

Agriculture-as-conservation is a function of prosperity. For most Britons cheap food is no longer a necessity torn from the soil or wrenched from the flesh of fellow creatures. Few who gnaw a Kentucky Fried Chicken have ever wrung a bird's neck. They feel they have moved up the evolutionary chain from Cold Comfort Farm. Food is now an accoutrement of the good life. As such, people expect it to be "good" and everything about it to be good. They will pay 1 per cent more for it and even force some farmers out of work. But the farmer nowadays digs for the CAP, not for victory. He lost his moral supremacy as breadwinner to the nation in a mess of subsidy.

This is not a frivolous point, however much it upsets farmers. I no longer like the idea that my energy *requires men to be sent underground* to dig for coal, even if they lose their livelihoods as a result. I pay dole to *keep miners "set aside". I pay dole to* farmers on the same basis. As part of the return, some people now want to *be fed without anybody spilling blood* or felling trees. The way their food is produced affects their conscience as *much as their taste buds. There may* be more important causes. They know children are suffering, but they *do not eat children. They eat food.*

Food consumption, like energy *consumption*, is a gesture we all make that we believe has global impact. It is a form of franchise. One hamburger refused is one acre of rain forest saved. One engine switched off is a millimetre of ozone layer preserved. Consumption is empowerment. The organised boycott, the slaughterhouse siege, the blockaded port may be an extreme extension of that power — as is the breaking of laws and sending of excrement to politicians, the infantile regression of the agitprop bourgeoisie. We cannot all have "designer laws" to be obeyed à la carte. But that *is the fringe.* Consumerism is a branch of democracy. In the battle of the lobbies, Big Farming versus Big *Conservation, conservation is start*ing to win.

I have just received my annual *newsletter from a place that is the* antithesis of Dunscar. Oliver Walston's Thriplow farm is a big *East Anglian arable estate. If* Dunscar is the future, Thriplow is the past, though it hardly looks it. *Walston's views are heartily disliked* by many conventional farmers, for he regularly tells the truth about his *patch of the field. Last year was as* prosperous as ever. CAP support for the cereal barons actually rose, despite an *excellent harvest*: "The price of wheat went up, the yield of wheat went up and the subsidy we *received for every acre went up,*" reports Walston in amazement. "The laws of supply and demand are suspended. It has been a mad, stupid but, for arable farmers at least, a highly profitable year."

Walston senses this cannot last and is not sure it ought to. He pleads with his fellow farmers to seek common cause with the Green lobby. He has horses in livery, lets his set-aside fields for war games, accepts the "right to roam" on his land and is *repairing five miles of old hedges and* laying two miles of new ones. Not all farmers can afford this. Walston gets *a big cheque from the taxpayer* each year and wants to offer something in return. His offer is to make his farm a *little more like Dunscar. He wants to* be a Good Farmer.

My earliest memory of *The Archers was of a scene in which the* rich landower, Ralph Bellamy, told the poor farmer, Walter Gabriel, that he *really should concrete his farmyard.* Gabriel took his advice, but his cows strayed on to the wet concrete and *became disastrously* trapped. What a fool old Gabriel was, we were expected to think. Today the tables *are turned. Gabriel would tell Bella*my to take a JCB to his cowsheds and concrete standings — or risk all hope *of National Trust patronage. Where* are his bridleways, nature reserves, multi-species hedges and visitor cen*tres? Does he want to go bankrupt?*

A quarter of a million visitors traipse up Hope Valley each year, *heading for Mam Tor past the gates* of Dunscar. Their votes and their wallets will determine its future, and the future of Thriplow. *In a hundred* years' time, I know which farm will have changed more.

Hay-makers by Stubbs: much of our rural landscape may be returning to how it was centuries ago

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Red-handed

THE TIMES DIARY

RATHER THAN imitating art, life was demolishing it at a smart gallery in London's West End on Thursday night. Ken Livingstone, the adenoidal MP for Brent East, *smashed up a free-standing sculp*ture by Peter Kennard, a popular artist noted for his portrayal of John Major as the Mona Lisa.

Livingstone was billed as a talking exhibit at Kennard's show, *Our Financial Times*, which aims to criticise through sculptures and montages the influence of the banking industry on the Third World. Unfortunately, he became carried away with his speech, climbed onto the pedestal of one of the sculptures and started whirling his arms about like a windmill.

At his climax, he raised his right hand to the heavens, clenched his fist then brought it down in a victorious sweep. He caught the modern work of art full on and it collapsed in pieces on the floor. His audience was aghast. Livingstone was rendered momentarily speechless *and Kennard* shook his head in despair.

Gingerly stepping through the wreckage, *Livingstone was* contrite: "I'm always breaking things. I'm incredibly clumsy. It's very embarrassing." There is to be no claim for damages and Kennard put on a brave face: "There's an element of destruction already built in to the piece." The touring exhibition would have to continue minus one exhibit, he said.

Game excuse

A NEW variant from British Rail's leaves-on-the-line school of excuses comes in next month's *Field* magazine. A correspondent requesting *compensation* for a delay on the East Coast service recently was informed that he was ineligible.

"The disruption was due to an incident whereby a pheasant struck the front of the train," *said* British Rail. "This resulted in the train having to terminate at Peterborough . . . no liability is accepted for delays which are outside of *[sic]* our control, such as unpredictable inci*dents of this nature.*"

● *Environment Secretary John Gummer is sticking up for the hamburger again. The cow-hungry minister, who filled his daughter Cordelia with burgers for the television cameras four years ago in the wake of the BSE scare, is dining in Brooks's, St James's, on Monday — with no fewer than five executives from McDonald's, the burger chain.*

Star-crossed

NEWS that there is a 13th sign in the Zodiac is playing havoc in the household of Derek Jameson, the loud-mouthed broadcaster, whose wife Ellen is an astrologer. His birthday is on November 29 and, according to the Royal Astronomical Society, he should be reclassified from Sagittarius to Scorpio. "I'm not surprised," he says. "I have always thought I was very Machiavellian and rather manipulative. More Scorpio than Sagittarius."

Ellen is unimpressed: "He's a Sagittarian through and through. There is no more concentrated manifestation of the Jupiter-ruled sign than my husband."

Spice of life

THE FIRST students graduated from a new Asian cookery school in Bradford yesterday. And handing *out the National Vocational Quali*fication certificates at the Taaro Catering Training Centre was David Curry, the Local Government Minister.

"From a very early age I learnt to live with the name and I have heard several million jokes," he says wearily. "*I had a very good* lunch. I am a tandoori man and they had prepared some tandoori *dishes. My wife is* French so we eat Franglais at home but when we go out it's usually Asian."

YOU MEAN WE'VE BEEN INCOMPATIBLE FOR 65 YEARS?
ZODIAC SIGNS ALL WRONG
ROBERT THOMPSON

Spiked

ANIMAL RIGHTS protesters were the subject of discussion on the late-*night television phone-in show Littlejohn* on Thursday when a caller purporting to be Spike Milligan came on the line. The irascible Richard Littlejohn cut him off before he could get a word out and moved on to the next caller.

A shame really, because it was indeed Spike Milligan, a keen opponent of carting sheep and cows overseas, who had been at the demonstration at Shoreham that day. "A man from the show phoned me back and apologised. He didn't know what to say, poor man. Then Richard Littlejohn came on the line and said he was very sorry, he thought I was a fake," said Milligan. "I said I have been a fake all my life. I'm 200 people. I'm friends with him now. I am a Christian."

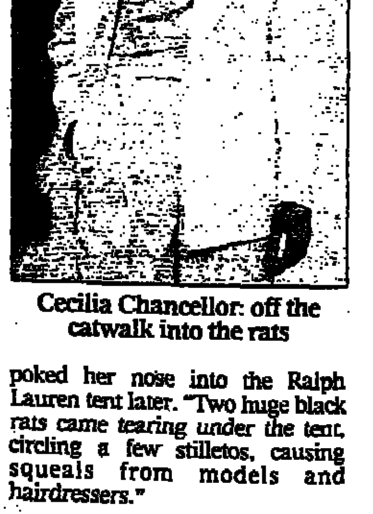
● *Giorgio Armani's costumes are making their mark not only on stage during the production of Royal Opera House's* Cosi fan tutti. *Employees at the opera house are beating a path to the designer's Covent Garden store. They are all offered a discount of 10 per cent for the duration of the show.*

Caught short

LIFE on the catwalk is less glamorous than many would have you believe, says the striking English model Cecilia Chancellor, whose father Alexander Chancellor, the journalist, has just been convicted of drink-driving.

In next month's *Vogue*, she recalls Milan this season and, in particular, the first show of the fashion house Dolce & Gabbana. Why? Because she needed to answer nature's call but couldn't. "I was desperate and I wasn't allowed to go as it meant walking through the audience. The second trauma was the five-inch stiletto heels and the instruction to 'walk fast'," she says.

The story got worse when she poked her nose into the Ralph Lauren tent later. "Two huge black rats came tearing under the tent, circling a few stilletos, causing squeals from models and hairdressers."



Cecilia Chancellor: off the catwalk into the rats

P·H·S

SHADOWS IN THE CAVE

How the painter's art was born, lost, and born again

The cave paintings discovered near Avignon at the Grotte Chauvet last month are an extraordinary window on the Ice Age. Through this dark glass, we dimly perceive a world 20,000 years old, in which our distant ancestors painted vivid images of the beasts they hunted. According to E. H. Gombrich, "These primitive hunters thought that if they only made a picture of their prey the real animals would also succumb to their power." Although his interpretation may be correct, perhaps the greater mystery lies in the sheer skill with which the images were painted.

Labouring in the cold recesses of the caves, the prehistoric painters achieved a remarkable degree of naturalism in their depiction of bison, reindeer and rhinoceros. Their work suggests a desire to capture three dimensions in two. It is representative, rather than symbolic, art. Twenty millennia before Brunelleschi established the mathematical rules of perspective, these primitive artists were aspiring towards the same distant goal.

Yet their descendants did not always keep that goal in sight. The art of Egyptian civilisation was rule-based rather than imitative. It sought to give order to the world rather than to reproduce it. Naturalism became an aesthetic objective once more in the classical world, especially after the 5th century BC. The sculpture of Hermes by Praxiteles of about 350 BC, for instance, is nothing if not a celebration of the human form. In contrast, the art of the Dark and Middle Ages was generally symbolic rather than naturalistic, concerned with the representation of archetypes rather than the reproduction of reality. Not until Giotto painted his frescoes at Arena did accurate imitation once again become a priority.

The ebb and flow of naturalism is one of the great enigmas of aesthetic history. As Erich Auerbach showed in his masterpiece *Mimesis*, it is no less a question in the history of literature — from Homer's description of Odysseus's scar to Dante's lifelike depiction of Hell. Writers have not always tried to represent reality faithfully. It might be argued, quite simply, that some ages value artistic imitation and others do not; that naturalism in art is one method among many rather than an achievement to which all artists aspire. Was Duccio any less a painter than Giotto because his paintings were more two-dimensional?

An alternative explanation is that man forgets as often as he discovers. There is no pathway of inevitable progress, leading man sequentially from discovery to discovery, skill to skill. Ideas and achievements get lost in the mêlée of human affairs and the wrong turnings of history. Aristarchus of Samos knew that the Earth revolved round the Sun in the 3rd century BC; yet his theory was overtaken by the Ptolemaic view that the Earth was the centre of the universe. Not until Copernicus was the truth rediscovered. As Arthur Koestler put it, the history of science is full of "dark interludes" as well as moments of enlightenment.

The same may be true of artistic methods. The first cave painters were astonishingly precocious, instinctively capable of drawing lifelike images of the beasts that lumbered across the palaeolithic planes. Their successors seem to have forgotten this skill or lost the basic urge to recreate nature as exactly as possible. Why this should be so is one of the great questions of cultural history. In these remarkable paintings, we glimpse with awe the shadow of talents man once took for granted, forgot and has now reclaimed.

THE CAR IN 1995

A new addition to *The Times* and a great debate to come

Today *The Times* publishes the first issue of a new weekly section devoted to the car. We hope both to provide a service to those buying and selling cars and to explore our complex contemporary attitudes to the car. What makes us love them and what makes us loathe them? What will make us change them? The same bright metal machines that broaden our horizons and expand our freedoms kill tens of thousands and choke city streets with congestion and fumes. The car has created paradoxes from the day it was invented: today the pluses and minuses are becoming ever more mixed.

For politicians a simple source of economic growth has become a perilous puzzle. Attack the car and the motorists, who now number 61 per cent of the voting-age population, feel they are in the firing line. Promote it and the pedestrians, the city dwellers, the environmentalists, in fact all those who care about the future of their children, take it as a personal affront. The safest course, politicians have generally concluded, is to ignore cars as far as possible, shuffling transport policy to royal commissions and quangos until the next election or, ideally, the one after that.

One quite specific example of Government shirking its responsibility towards motorists is now before Parliament, in the form of a private Bill to combat car pollution, presented by Westminster City Council to the House of Lords. This Bill would impose spot-checks and tough new penalties on cars, taxis and buses with dirty exhausts.

The idea of pollution fines is overdue, especially after the foul smogs experienced in London and other big cities last summer. The clinching argument that seems to have inspired the Bill was research done by the Royal Automobile Club a year ago. This showed that a small number of irresponsible "gross polluters" cause most of the noxious fumes. According to the RAC, the repairs required to bring most of the "gross polluters" within acceptable limits would take only half an hour and cost less than £50.

It might seem, therefore, that the new Bill would be broadly welcomed and assured of an easy passage through Parliament. Sadly, that is not the case. The RAC itself, after campaigning strongly in favour of roadside action against gross polluters, has now moved into opposition and is considering a petition that would block any action by the Lords.

The RAC has not, it seems, changed its mind about pollution. The Bill, however, lacks official support from the Government, and as a result raises issues about which motorists should quite legitimately be concerned. At present, only the police have the right to flag down motorists and ask them to step out of their cars. The RAC quite reasonably argues that extending this power to parking attendants who are employed by private companies, sometimes on bounty systems, would encroach on civil liberties and could pose a threat to motorists' personal security, especially in the case of women driving alone at night.

The obvious solution would be to introduce the new fines, but to confine the power of spot-checking to police, or at least to traffic wardens, who operate under police supervision, as opposed to private parking attendants, who do not. For such a compromise to be possible, however, the Government, which has so far been hiding behind the skirts of the London councils, would have to commit itself to the new law. Here is a clear chance for the Government to show it can make up its mind about cars and motorists: the sooner it does so, the better.

PEACE IN OUR CLASS

Mrs Shephard should not concede too much to teaching unions

Since becoming Education Secretary, Mrs Gillian Shephard has gone to some lengths to make it clear that the Government would no longer court confrontation with the teaching unions. The restoration of "peace in the classroom" has been one of her principal objectives. This is a worthy aim. The obstructionism displayed by the National Union of Teachers towards regular testing and school league tables was threatening to sabotage any progress towards educational reform.

Yesterday's announcement that the NUT had voted to drop its test boycott would appear to have been a victory for that conciliatory policy. The general-secretary of the NUT, Doug McAvoy, is putting a brave face on this climbdown by talking of a promised "thorough review" of the Government's testing policy. But in reality the NUT was isolated in its militancy and has effectively given up its last-ditch stand.

All of which would seem to vindicate Mrs Shephard's emollient approach. But how much ground has she given away in this process? As we reported yesterday, her leaked letter to the chairman of the Cabinet committee in charge of education spending, David Hunt, which was written before last November's spending round, gives warning of the dire consequences of failing to increase this funding. Her request was met halfway with an offer of a further £133 million, giving an overall increase of 1.1 per cent in education funding, which is still below inflation.

Mrs Shephard's letter is now being loudly trumpeted by the Government's critics as alarming evidence that the Secretary of State herself believes education to be underfunded. In fact, its tone and contents should be at least as alarming to supporters of the Government's education reforms. For her wording echoes very closely the special pleading demands of the teaching unions.

She points out that the likely "period of calm" in the classrooms would be put in immediate danger if teachers were to be offered a "provocatively" low pay rise. This is a remarkable statement from a Conservative Education Secretary since it appears to condone the confounding of pay demands with ideological protest that the more militant unions have perpetrated. She goes on to say that if, on the other hand, teachers are offered an "acceptable" settlement (that is, one in line with inflation), this can only be at the price of a cutback in teaching jobs which will inevitably result in increasing class sizes.

Larger class size is often claimed by teachers' spokesmen to be synonymous with declining education standards. But the present pupil-teacher ratios of 22.7 in primary schools and 16.4 in secondary schools would have been considered extraordinarily good in earlier generations. Post-war classes, which frequently numbered more than 40, managed to produce more consistent results in literacy and numeracy than contemporary ones because they relied on whole-class teaching methods rather than work with small groups. While Mrs Shephard must obviously argue as strongly as possible for generous funding of the education service, she would be unwise to adopt all of its presuppositions and prejudices.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Police presence at peaceful protests

From Mrs Stephanie McAndrew

Sir, I am writing to express my concern about the situation that engulfs our small, peaceful town. We, as a community, were not given any opportunity to voice our objections before the decision to export live cargo was made. As a result, we have had to protest in the only manner immediately available to us (report, January 19).

The transportation of live cargo is offensive. The route is through a residential area, past our homes and school. The exporter daily demands action from the police concerning his legal rights, but we as a community apparently have none.

At 7.25 this morning 40 police vehicles containing officers wearing riot uniforms escorted three lorries of sheep past my front door. The ordinary uniformed officers were on duty as well. This seems likely to continue at least twice a day for the foreseeable future.

Our children are frightened by the considerable police presence, upset at the sight of the animals (stacked three layers high) going past their homes every day, and concerned that nothing is seen to be done by the very people we expect to defend us.

It has become much more than an animal-rights issue. We do not want this cargo through our town. We don't want to have these scenes of intimidation towards a peaceful protest daily. We want it stopped, and stopped now.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHANIE McANDREW,
8 Church Road,
Brightlingsea, Essex.
January 19.

From Mr Bene't Steinberg

Sir, David Gibbon's letter (January 20) is outrageous. The defence of mass picketing which puts fear into those legitimately going about their business, and can lead to mob violence, reminds me of the weasel words used at the time of the mass pickets at the Grunwick plant (June 1977) and the Orgreave coking plant (May 1984).

If it was right for the country and Government to support the police in those two conflicts, it is right for us to give our support to the police now. Or is it the fact that it is largely middle-class people, not striking miners, who are causing the trouble which deprives the chief constables of vociferous public and political support?

Yours sincerely,
BENE'T STEINBERG,
5 Knighton Road, Forest Gate, E7.
January 20.

From Dr James E. Lovelock, FRS

Sir, It did my heart good to see genuine public protest over the export of live animals to Europe. It is wonderful that there are still enough ordinary folk prepared to face the discomforts of a midwinter protest against a cruel trade.

The abuse of protest and its amplification by the media has made us cynical. We see conscripted mobs of political protesters as like a commercial or a party political broadcast, something flawed and insincere.

The criticism that this caring for mere animals is inappropriate in the face of so much human suffering is disingenuous. If we are to survive on this over-populated planet we must first recognise the needs of the other living organisms.

Yours sincerely,
JAMES E. LOVELOCK
(President, Earthkind),
Coombe Mill,
St Giles on the Heath,
Launceston, Cornwall.
January 20.

Gentlemen's clubland rallies to repel lady members

From Mr Derek Nimmo

Sir, In Janet Daley's article of January 19, she tells of an article which she wrote in 1992 "which — in the strongest terms the lawyers would permit — *depicted the Garrick as a smug nest of mild corruption*".

Today, she returned to her theme, I hope with equal consultation with her lawyer.

Talking of the vote by which an overwhelming majority of the membership opposed admittance of women to the Garrick, she talks of D. Nimmo's "misogynist diatribe which was his contribution to the club's debate. He showered contempt *instead on the hapless female colleagues with* whom he had worked over the years, apparently having found them all equally detestable".

Happily, the debate was tape-recorded and here is a transcript of what I actually said:

> The profession of which I am a member was the first in which women were truly emancipated. Over 300 years ago, at the time of the restoration of the monarchy, women had absolute and total job equality. In many of the plays in which I have appeared in London, women have had top billing, going back to Vivien Leigh and, more recently, Maureen Lipman. I enjoy working with them professionally very much. It is perhaps because of that that one treasures so greatly the male companionship of the Garrick [laughter]. It is also a particular pleasure for an actor to be allowed in to talk to grown-ups.

Where is the misogynist diatribe? Where the "showered contempt" and who are the "hapless female colleagues"?

Mrs Daley goes on to say that

> another contributor to that afternoon of debate at the Royalty Theatre — a very high-powered member of the House of Lords — delivered himself of the quite remarkably misinformed statement that the only woman who had wanted to join the Garrick was "an American journalist" who said that she wanted to "use the club for networking". And of course, he announced self-righteously, no one ever used the club for that purpose, and that if she (ie, Mrs Daley) attempted to do so, the members would gather together in spontaneous outrage and fling her ... from an upstairs window.

What Lord Chalfont (for it was he) actually said was:

> I have to concede that one lady publicly advanced her claim and aspiration to become a member of the Garrick. She made it in an article in *The Times*. As I recall, she expressed the desire to become a member and her main aim was to indulge in something she called "networking". I can only say that if that lady is typical of the small number who want to become members of the Garrick, it will strike terror into the heart of any club member who contemplates admitting ladies to the club [applause].

One final point. Mrs Daley asked why I had asked for her *curriculum vitae*. The answer is simple: I just wondered what manner of person might be the author of such nonsense.

The irony is, of course, that it was *Mrs Daley's article in The Times that resolved the minds of any waverers. They accordingly voted against the motion.*

Yours faithfully,
DEREK NIMMO,
110 Lexham Gardens, W8.
January 19.

From Lady Parker

Sir, Lord Lester leaves the Garrick, Roy Hattersley joins it (Diary, January 16). Derek Nimmo remains loyal.

For a club as full and ever-popular as the Garrick, with such a long waiting list, it can hardly be a matter for regret if a member chooses to resign, particularly if his views are not shared by the majority of the members.

As a daughter, sister and wife of Garrick members, *I have enjoyed the club's welcome and excellent hospitality since the age of 10. The fact that I may not pay a subscription or fetch my own drinks from the bar has never* detracted from my delight in what the Garrick has to offer.

Yours faithfully,
MARIA-BELEN PARKER,
Carr Manor,
Stonegate Road, Leeds.
January 18.

From Professor L. Neville Brown

Sir, When, as in the clubland issue, liberty and equality come into irreconcilable conflict, my vote is for liberty.

Yours faithfully,
L. NEVILLE BROWN,
United Oxford and Cambridge
University Club,
Pall Mall, SW1.
January 19.

From Lady James of Rusholme

Sir, Of course let men form a club and keep women out if they want to. But surely it is grossly misleading to call such an institution the United Oxford and Cambridge University Club?

Yours faithfully,
CORDELIA JAMES,
Penhill Cottage,
West Witton,
Leyburn, North Yorkshire.
January 18.

From Sir Peter Crill

Sir, A private club is, politically speaking, an extension of one's home. Even Mr Vernon Bogdanor (letter, January 14) *would not, I think, wish to control whom one may receive there.*

It is sad, therefore, but not remarkable, that the blight of political correctness has descended upon some Oxbridge senior common rooms. Academic conformity is a contradiction in terms.

A private club, whether composed of males or not, is under no obligation, as Dr David Butler suggests ("Let the women join", January 11), to "conform to the norms of contemporary British society".

It is for the club's members to decide if they have lost confidence in their chairman and committee. Up to now I can say that I have not.

Yours sincerely,
PETER CRILL,
United Oxford and Cambridge
University Club,
Pall Mall, SW1.
January 16.

In defence of operatic brevity

From Mr Humphrey Burton

Sir, As a fellow "oldster" who also attended the first production of Walton's *Troilus and Cressida* in 1954, I write to challenge the unjustifiably negative headline verdict accompanying your opera critic's review of the new Opera North production ("Disappointment for the oldsters", January 16).

Rodney Milnes's grievance is that music cut from the score by the composer himself after the Covent Garden premiere (nearly half an hour *in toto*) has not been restored by Opera North. But Walton made these cuts in response to his own stern demand for brevity. He loved Italian opera and he wanted the acts of his own work to be no longer than those in Verdi and Puccini.

The correspondence between Walton and his librettist makes it abundantly clear that he was aiming for act durations of around 40 to 45 minutes. By his revisions for performances in 1955, 1963 and 1976 he achieved that goal. In 1978 he wrote that he would "like to cut even more", but he made *no other changes before his death in* 1983.

I fear your critic has fallen into the trap of claiming to be a better judge of these matters than the composer himself. Mr Milnes may well love the music that has been excised to distraction. No doubt Walton did, too. But the composer followed Quiller-Couch's famous injunction: "kill your darlings", and we cannot now expect Opera North to set up a workshop to explore the might-have-beens.

Two months ago Mr Milnes dismayed many of his admirers by dismissing the new Royal Opera *Traviata* as being satisfactory only to those whose tastes did not extend beyond Barbara Cartland novels and Ivor Novello musicals ("Pretty and disappointing", November 28).

Reviewing *Troilus and Cressida*, he castigates its director and designer for the absence of "Mediterranean light". This is equally perplexing. Act Two takes place between dusk and dawn; Act Three is defined as "early evening" at the Greeks' encampment outside Troy and is punctuated by the distant calls of night sentries.

In short, Sir, I hope that your gloomy headline will *not deter opera-lovers from attending Opera North's* forthcoming performances or listening to Radio Three's broadcast from Covent Garden on February 2. For this oldster at least (and I understand for Lady Walton herself), the new production is no disappointment but a triumphant assertion of Walton's dramatic and lyrical gifts.

In praising its "gloriously melodious, exquisitely scored music", your critic was echoing the verdict in your columns of his distinguished predecessor, *Frank Howes, who summed up Troilus and Cressida as "a great* tragic opera" (December 4, 1954).

Yours sincerely,
HUMPHREY BURTON,
123 Oakwood Court, W14.
January 18.

The law's delays

From Sir Simeon Bull

Sir, Like Mr C. A. Gerard (letter, January 10) I am a solicitor, but for upwards of 30 years I have tried, for my own peace of mind and that of my clients, to avoid litigation for exactly the reason he and others have outlined (letters, December 26, January 3, 6).

Imagine, therefore, my horror when I was informed that I was required to appear as a witness in a case to be heard in Dallas, Texas. I was told that the judge was adamant that the matter would be heard on Monday, November 7. I was further told that the judge was well known for taking a "tough line" with lawyers who were not ready. Thus I had to go through the whole tedious business of clearing my diary, booking tickets, etc.

This despite the fact that the decision to hear the matter on November 7 (or indeed any other day) lay not with the judge but with the listing clerk. Whilst one can appeal against the decisions of judges, there is no machinery known that enables one to appeal against the "decisions" of a listing clerk taken "in camera" on Friday afternoons.

I need hardly add that the listing clerk decided against the judge, so *that I went to my office on November 7 with my diary clear for a whole week. Every cloud has a silver lining.*

Yours sincerely,
SIMEON BULL,
199 Piccadilly, W1.
January 12.

Controlling flatworms

From Dr J. D. Matthews

Sir, We have waged war for a number of years on the flatworm in our Edinburgh garden (letters, January 16). *Earthworms are now returning, and bird life does not appear to have been* affected.

Old porous bricks laid around the garden are the best collecting places. Small planks of old wood and earthenware pots are good, but plastic pots, slate or glazed brick and polystyrene tiles are not successful.

The sites are betrayed by patches of mucoid material, similar to the traces of slugs. The eggs look like small blackcurrants.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN D. MATTHEWS,
3 Succoth Gardens, Edinburgh 12.
January 16.

From Mr J. A. Graham

Sir, As the flatworm is already flat, what is the point of stamping on it?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN A. GRAHAM,
277 Old Farm Avenue, Sidcup, Kent.
January 17.

Suitable sculpture

From Miss Lucy Riddell

Sir, I am a great lover of sculpture and believe that there is not enough good sculpture on public display, but do we have to be subjected to such gross "theme-park art" as the Roosevelt and Churchill duo destined for New Bond Street (report and photograph, January 12)?

This crass picture of false joviality, which would be more suited to a seaside picture-postcard, reflects none of the gravity of the event which it commemorates, and belittles the sacrifice made by so many for this country.

The purpose of such public statues should be to impress upon future generations the stature and importance of history-makers, and a sculpture of two portly caricatures gossiping on a park bench will probably end up as a splattered pigeon-roost.

Yours sincerely,
LUCY RIDDELL,
28 Lovat Street,
Newport Pagnell, Buckinghamshire.

Paratrooper's appeal

From Mr Jasper Archer

Sir, I suspect that many people, especially serving and retired soldiers, will be appalled by the law lords' decision that Private Lee Clegg, the paratrooper convicted of murdering the teenage companion of a joyrider in Northern Ireland, should continue to languish in jail — possibly for life (report, January 20).

Their Lordships had the luxury of months in the cosy safety of their comfortable chambers to arrive at their decision. Private Clegg had but a split second in the dark of a mean Belfast street to make his decision, which, with the benefit of hindsight, if not right, was wholly understandable and worthy of the country's support.

Yours etc,
JASPER ARCHER,
Cavalry and Guards Club,
127 Piccadilly, W1.

Reconciliation plea

From Vice-Admiral Sir Anthony Troup

Sir, I am saddened that the Burma Star Association will not agree to the attendance of the Japanese on the 50th anniversary of VJ day (report, January 12). In my view it is sending entirely the wrong signal and one which will not be understood by our grandchildren or theirs either.

As one who fought through the *entire war, including the last year against the Japanese, and saw many* friends and relations killed, I believe that after 50 years it must now be possible to forgive, but perhaps not to forget, what happened. For me — May 8 and August 15 should be days to mark not only the 50th anniversary of the return to peace but days of reconciliation with those we fought against.

Why not send a signal of reconciliation by welcoming visiting German and Japanese (many of whom are likely *to be young students) into our* houses on those two days? If we don't do it now we may have to wait for a very long time for another opportunity.

Yours sincerely,
TONY TROUP,
Bridge Gardens,
Hungerford, Berkshire.
January 19.

Labour and rail

From Dr Patricia Pike

Sir, Your leader on January 16 suggested that preventing rail privatisation would be the "first solid victory" for the Labour Party led by Tony Blair. I think it would be the third. Preventing the sale of the Post Office, was the first, and stopping any *increase in VAT on domestic fuel was* the second. Those of us who write letters, who feel the cold, and who use public transport, have reason to be grateful that someone speaks for us.

Yours sincerely,
PATRICIA PIKE,
9 Wentworth Road, Oxford.

Street-wise?

From Mr R. B. P. Jennings

Sir, *I would not have been surprised if John Prescott had been confused between Dean Bradley Street and Dean Trench Street when he parked his car in Westminster (report, January 18).* A few years ago, when visiting the City, I had great difficulty locating a client's office in King William Street only to find, when I checked the address, that I should have been in Queen Victoria Street.

Yours sincerely,
ROBERT JENNINGS,
28 Elmfield Road, SW17.

Geese as guardians

From Brigadier E. G. B. Davies-Scourfield

Sir, The only things which were ever successfully stolen from my mother's house were the geese themselves — just before Christmas in 1938 (letters, January 14, 18).

Yours faithfully,
GRIS DAVIES-SCOURFIELD,
Old Rectory Cottage,
Medstead, Alton, Hampshire.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Weekend Money letters, page 35

(صكنا من الاصل)

COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM, NORFOLK
January 20: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were represented by Field Marshal Sir Roland Gibbs (Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Wiltshire) at the Funeral of the Dowager Countess of Pembroke and Montgomery which was held in St Mary and St Nicholas Church, Wilton, today.

The Duke of Kent was represented by Mr Nicolas Adamson.

Prince Michael of Kent and Princess Alexandra, the Hon Lady Ogilvy was represented by the Hon Mary Morrison.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
January 20: The Princess Royal, President of the Patrons, Crime Concern, this morning launched the Safer Cities Project at Merthyr Tydfil before touring the Dowlais Estate and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Mid Glamorgan (Mr Murray McLaggan).

Her Royal Highness, President, Save the Children Fund, this afternoon visited the Cynon Valley Project, 4 Knight Street, Mountain Ash, Mid Glamorgan.

The Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
January 20: The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, this morning received the Secretary of the Duchy of Cornwall (Mr John James).

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
January 20: The Duke of Kent, Colonel, Scots Guards, today received Brigadier John Kiszely, Regimental Lieutenant Colonel, relinquishing the appointment and Brigadier Kim Ross, assuming the appointment.

Today's royal engagement

The Princess Royal, as Patron of the Scottish Rugby Union, will attend the Scotland v Canada International match at Murrayfield at 2.10.

Memorial services

Lord Rathcavan
A memorial service for Lord Rathcavan was held yesterday at St George's, High Street, Belfast. The Rev Brian Stewart officiated. Lord Rathcavan, son, and the Ven T.D. Stoney read the lessons. Lord Fitt gave an address and the Bishop of Connor pronounced the blessing.

The Northern Ireland Office was represented by Baroness Denton of Wakefield, the Ulster Unionist Parliamentary Party by Mr Josias Cunningham, president, and the Alliance Party by Mr John Alderdice.

Bridget Lady Rathcavan, widow, and other members of the family, the Mayor of North Down and many other friends were present.

Mrs Elizabeth Pomeroy
A service of celebration and thanksgiving for the life of Mrs Elizabeth Pomeroy, (Mrs Pom), journalist and cookery school principal, was held yesterday at St Mary Abbots, Kensington. The Rev Ian Robson officiated. Mr Hugh Pomeroy, son, read the lesson. Baroness White gave an address and Mrs Lizzie Hibbitt, daughter, and Mrs Catriona Swaffer paid tribute.

Dinner

Railway Study Association
Mr Chris Green, Managing Director of ScotRail, was the principal guest at the annual dinner of the Railway Study Association held last night at the New Connaught Rooms. Professor Brian Mellitt, president, was in the chair.

Anniversaries

TODAY

Births: John Frémont, explorer, Savannah, Georgia, 1813; Thomas (Stonewall) Jackson, Confederate general in the American Civil War, Clarksburg, Virginia, 1824; P. Morton Shand, architectural critic and translator of Gropius' *The New Architecture and the Bauhaus*, Kensington, 1888; Christian Dior, fashion designer, Granville, Normandy, 1905.

Deaths: Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey, poet and courtier, executed, London, 1547; Anthony Ashley Cooper, 1st Earl of Shaftesbury, statesman, Amsterdam, 1683; James Quin, actor, Bath, 1766; Alexis Piron, dramatist, Paris, 1773; Louis XVI, King of France, reigned 1774-93, executed, Paris, 1793; John Moore, physician and writer, London, 1802; Ludwig Achim von Arnim, poet, Dahme, Germany, 1831; Henry Hallam, historian, London, 1859; Alexander Herzen, socialist, Paris, 1870; Franz Grillparzer, dramatist, Vienna, 1872; John Couch Adams, astronomer, Cambridge, 1892; Lenin (Vladimir Ilyich Ulyanov), Russian revolutionary, Gorky, 1924; Lytton Strachey, writer, Hungerford, Berkshire, 1932; George Moore, novelist, London, 1933; George Orwell (Eric Blair), novelist, London, 1950; Cecil B. de Mille, film producer, Hollywood, 1959.

Taxi cabs were officially recognised in Britain, 1907.

The first Monte Carlo car rally began, 1911.

USS Nautilus, the first nuclear powered submarine, was launched, 1954.

Concorde made its inaugural flight to Bahrain, 1976.

TOMORROW

Births: Francis Bacon, Viscount St Albans, Lord Chancellor 1618-21, London, 1561; Pierre Gassendi, mathematician, Champtercier, Provence, 1592; Gotthold Lessing, dramatist, Kamenz, Germany, 1729; Andre Marie Ampere, physicist, Lyon, 1775; Joseph Hume, social reformer, Montrose, 1777; George Gordon Byron, 6th Baron Byron, poet, London, 1788; Paul Vidal de la Blanche, geographer, Pezenas, France, 1825; August Strindberg, dramatist, Stockholm, 1849; D.W. Griffith, film director, Floydsfork, Kentucky, 1875; U Thant, UN Secretary-General 1961-71, Pantanaw, Burma, 1909; Sam Cooke, singer, Chicago, 1931.

Deaths: Andrea del Sarto, painter, Florence, 1531; William Paterson, financier and founder of the Bank of England, London, 1719; Giambattista Vico, philosopher, Naples, 1744; Horace Benedict de Saussure, physicist and historian, Geneva, 1799; Charles Kean, actor-manager, London, 1868; Sir Joseph Whitworth, industrialist and engineer, Monte Carlo, 1887; Carlo Pellegrini, the cartoonist (Ape), London, 1889; David Hughes, pioneer of telephony, London, 1900; Queen Victoria, reigned 1837-1901, Osborne House, Isle of Wight, 1901; James Bryce, 1st Viscount Bryce, historian and diplomat, Sidmouth, Devon, 1922; Walter Sickert, painter, Bath, 1942; Lyndon B. Johnson, 36th American President 1963-69, San Antonio, Texas, 1973.

The Accession of Edward VII, 1901.

The Allied landings began in Anzio, Italy, 1944.

The United Kingdom, Irish Republic and Denmark joined the Common Market, 1972.

Cheam Hawtreys

1995 is the 350th Anniversary of Cheam School. The occasion is being celebrated by events at the School on June 16, 17 and 18, at which all past, present and future pupils, staff, parents and friends are welcome. If you are not on our mailing list and would like to receive information please contact Mr Christopher Evers, Headmaster, Cheam Hawtreys, Headley, Newbury, RG15 8LD. Tel: 01635 268242. Fax: 269345.

Church news

Resignations and retirements

The Rev John Ford, Vicar, Edwinstowe (Southwell): to retire in July.

The Rev David Green, Vicar, Weymouth St Paul (Salisbury): resigned as from January 3.

The Rev David Neville, Curate, St Mary's, Attenborough (Southwell): to resign at the end of February and will continue his ministry as an NSM.

Weekend birthdays

Paul Scofield, the actor, is 73 today

Baroness Lockwood, who is 71 tomorrow

TODAY: Mr M.J. Boleat, director-general, Association of British Insurers, 46; Dr Alan Borg, director-general, Imperial War Museum, 53; Sir John Burnett, former Vice-Chancellor, Edinburgh University, 73; Dr Rohan Butler, historian, 78; Dr David Carey, former legal secretary to the Archbishop of Canterbury, 78; Lord Cayzer, 85; the Rev J.S. Coventry, SJ, former Master, St Edmund's House, Cambridge, 80; Mr John Denison, former director, South Bank Concert Halls, 84; Mr Placido Domingo, tenor, 54; Mr John Dring, head of training, HM Prison Service, 49; Mr George Foulkes, MP, 53; Dr John Hayes, former director, National Portrait Gallery, 66; Mr Ken Maginnis, MP, 57; Sir George Middleton, diplomat, 85; Mr Jack Nicklaus, golfer, 55; Mr Justice Phillips, 57; Miss Seone Reid, director, Scottish Arts Council, 45; Mr Aubrey Singer, former deputy director-general and managing director, BBC Television, 68; Mr Christopher Stewart-Smith, former president, Association of British Chambers of Commerce, 54; the Marquess of Tavistock, 55; Rear-Admiral Sir Richard Trowbridge, 75; Mr Laurence Whistler, glass engraver, 83; Mr Norman Willis, former general-secretary, TUC, 62.

TOMORROW: Miss Mary Hayley Bell, playwright, 84; Mr Nigel Benn, boxer, 31; Admiral Sir Lindsay Bryson, 70; Mr John Collier, chairman, Nuclear Electric, 60; Lord Cottesloe, 68; Sir John Cotton, diplomat, 86; Sir Charles Davis, former Counsel to the Speaker, 86; Mr George Foreman, boxer, 47; Judge Ann Goddard, QC, 59; Miss Margaret Hall, head of design, British Museum, 59; Professor Cyril Hogarth, physicist, 71; Lord Hughes, 84; Mr John Hurt, actor, 55; Mr John Last, arts patron, 55; Miss Elizabeth Lynne, MP, 47; Sir Alfred Ramsey, former manager, England World Cup team, 75; Mrs Claire Rayner, writer and broadcaster, 64; Mrs Gillian Shephard, MP, 55; Mr Michael Spicer, MP, 52; Sir Hilary Talbot, former High Court judge, 83; Lord Wardington, 71; Sir Graham Wilkins, former chairman, Thorn EMI, 71.

Forthcoming marriages

Captain C.A. Bremner and Miss K. Crosbie
The engagement is announced between Captain Christopher Allan Bremner, The Highlanders, elder son of Mrs J. Bremner, of Elgin, and Mr A. Bremner, of Strathaven, and Kathryn, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs A.J. Crosbie, of Edinburgh.

Mr A.L. Coll and Miss A.J. Sutcliffe
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mrs Catherine Coll and the late Mr Peter L. Coll, of Harrogate, North Yorkshire, and Alison, daughter of Mr and Mrs C. Sutcliffe, of Liversedge, West Yorkshire.

Mr M.A. Hinchliffe and Miss R.C. MacPherson
The engagement is announced between Michael Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs Malcolm Hinchliffe, of London, and Rose Charmaine, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan MacPherson, of Fleetwood, Lancashire.

Mr J.A.G. Howell and Miss E.S. Evans
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, elder son of Mr and Mrs J. Howell, of Newmarket, Suffolk, and Sarah, daughter of Dr N.J.B. Evans, CB, of Long Marston, Warwickshire, and Mrs E.M. Evans, of Wimborne, Dorset.

The Hon A.L. Keith and Miss S.A. O'Regan
The engagement is announced between Alexander, twin son of Lord and Lady Keith of Kinkel, and Sally, twin daughter of Mr and Mrs B. O'Regan.

F.J. O'Driscoll and Miss V.A. Spence
The engagement is announced between Fergal, son of Mr and Mrs Declan O'Driscoll, of Killiney, Co Dublin, and Victoria, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Daniel Spence, of Otley, Yorkshire.

J.M.G. Prinn and Miss T. Nieth
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, only son of Mr and Mrs Michael G. Prinn, of Brentwood, Essex, and Tanya, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Nieth, of Franschhoek, South Africa.

Mr J.W. Richardson and Miss T. Lederman
The engagement is announced between Jeremy, son of the late Judge and Mrs Kenneth Richardson, and Tamar, daughter of Jocelyn and Reuben Lederman, of Wellington, New Zealand.

Mr Z.M. Sandler and Miss N. Ito
The engagement is announced between Zachary Max, son of Mr and Mrs John Sandler, and Noriko, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Shunsuke Ito.

Mr G.T. Smailes and Dr C.L. Robinson
The engagement is announced between Geoffrey, son of Mr and Mrs Francis Gerald Smailes, of Minskip, North Yorkshire, and Charlotte, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs Christopher Robinson, of Riding Mill, Northumberland.

Mr D.C. Williamson and Miss A.G. Marshall
The engagement is announced between Craig, elder son of Mrs Merrilyn Williamson and Mr Richard Williamson, of Langham, Essex, and Gail, younger daughter of Mr Alan Marshall and the late Mrs Barbara Marshall, of Ardleigh, Essex.

Captain M.J. Winston-Davis and Miss K.J. Gibbs
The engagement is announced between Mark, only son of Mr and Mrs J. Winston-Davis, of Belford, Northumberland, and Kirsty, elder daughter of Professor and Mrs D. Gibbs, of Speldhurst, Kent.

Marriage

Mr K. Phillips and Miss A.M. Chaplin
The marriage took place on January 7, 1995, at Temple Church, Temple, of Mr Keith Phillips, only son of Mr and Mrs E. Phillips, of Bexleyheath, Kent, to Miss Anne Margaret Chaplin, only daughter of Mr and Mrs K.A. Chaplin, of Chertsey, Surrey.

The reception was later held at The Parliament Chamber, Inner Temple.

Reception

HM Government
Mr Allan Stewart, Minister for Industry and Local Government at the Scottish Office, was the host yesterday at a reception given by Her Majesty's Government in Edinburgh Castle for representatives of the Japanese business community in Scotland.

Supper

Caledonian Club
Sir Russell Johnston, MP, proposed the toast to *"The Immortal Memory of Robert Burns"* at a Burns' Night supper held yesterday at the Caledonian Club. Mr Iain A. MacCaskill proposed the toast to *"The Lassies"*.

Service dinner

RN Dental Service
Admiral Sir Jock Slater, Vice-Chief of the Defence Staff, and Mrs Margaret Seward, President of the General Dental Council, last night attended a dinner held in *HMS Nelson*, Portsmouth, to mark the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Royal Naval Dental Service. Surgeon Commodore (D) E.J. Grant, presided.

Church services tomorrow

Third Sunday after Epiphany

BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 11 Choral Euch, Rev P Nimmo; 4 Choral E.

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL: College Green 7.40 M; 8 HC; 10 Choral Euch, Ubi caritas (Duruflé), Missa Brevis (Ives), O Magnum Mysterium (Byrd), Canon P Johnson; 3.30 Choral E, Responses (Sumsion), Howells in G, And I saw a new heaven (Bainton), Canon A Redfern.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 M, Rev P MacKenzie; 11 S Euch, Ridout in A, O nata lux (Tallis); 3.15 E, Responses (Tomkins), Fourth Service (Batten); 6.30 United Service: Most Rev R Eames & Cardinal C Daly.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 10 S Euch, O quam gloriosum (Victoria), Author of Life divine (Aston); 3 E, O come ye servants (Tye), Responses (Ayleward).

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP; 8 HC, Rev J Jones; 9.30 Euch, Rev R Cadman; 11.15 S Euch, Coll Reg (Howells), Canon D Knight; 6 Choral E, Responses (Tomkins), Dyson in F, Gauden in coelis (Vittoria).

CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8 HC; 10 Choral M, Responses (Reading), Elgar in F, Canon T Dennis; 11.30 Choral Euch, Missa O magnum mysterium (Vittoria); 3.30 Choral E, Responses (Reading), Walmisley in D minor, Where thou reignest (Schubert); 6.30 ES, Canon K Povey.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M, Responses (Smith), Noble in B minor, I will lift up mine eyes (Clarke-Whitfeld), Rev Canon G Hall; 11 S Euch, Chichester Mass (Lloyd), Child of heaven (Foster), Canon R Incledon; 3.30 E, Chichester Service (Archer), Responses (Smith), From East to West (Gibbs); 6.30 Unity Service, Rt Rev D Tustin.

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP; 8 C; 10.30 Euch, Darke in F, O LOrd increase my faith (Gibbons), Blessed be the God and Father (Wesley), Fr P Kilgariff; 3 German Lutherans; 3 Polish Lutherans; 5.30 E, O *Lord increase my faith (Gibbons)*, Responses (Reading), Aston in F, I was glad (Parry).

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M, *Stanford in C, O nata lux de lumine (Tallis)*, Canon M Perry; 11.15 HC, Jackson in G, Rev Prof J Dunn; 3.30 E, Stanford in C, Carols from O Magnum Mysterium (Maxwell Davies).

ELY CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Darke in F, Jubilate in A (Stanford), Thou wilt keep him (Wesley), Rev Canon R Meredith; 3.45 E, Murrill in E, The heavens are telling (Haydn).

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 MP; 10.30 S Euch, Ireland in C, Gaelic Blessing (Rutter), Captain M Hunt; 4 Choral E, Purcell in G minor, Responses (Statham), O what their joy (Harris); 6.15 United Service, Holy Trinity Church.

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8 HC; 9.30 S Euch, Missa Brevis in D (Mozart), Canon J van Eeghem (Brugge); 11.15 M, Coll Reg (Howells), Bethlehem Down (Warlock), The Subdean; 12.30 HC; 3.45 E, Purcell in E minor, Responses (Ayleward), See, see the word is incarnate (Gibbons).

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Leighton), Jubilate in C (Britten), O magnum mysterium (Poulenc), The Dean; 3.30 E, Responses (Leighton), Gloucester Service/Sing lullaby (Howells).

LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL: 10.30 Euch & Confirmation, Missa Sancte Nicholai (Haydn), The Bishop of Warrington; 3 Choral E, Sumsion in G, Canon M Wolfe; 4 HC.

LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M; 8 H Euch, Rev J Redvers Harris; 9 Euch, Mr L Richardson; 11 S Euch, Missa Sancti Nicolai (Haydn), Confirma hoc Deus (Byrd); 12.15 H Euch; 3.30 Christian Unity Service, Rt Rev R Williams; 6.30 E.

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8.45 MP; 9 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Jackson in G; 6.30 E, Noble in B minor.

SALISBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 Euch, Gloucester Service (Shephard), Christus factus est (Bruckner), V Rev H Dickinson; *11.30 M, Responses (Reading), Te Deum in C*/Jubilate in C (Britten), Keith Sobey; 3 E, Responses (Reading), Second Service (*Gibbons*), *Praise our Lord all ye Gentiles* (Byrd).

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 11 Choral Euch, Missa Landate Dominum (Dassus), There is no rose (Houbert), Here is the little door (Howells), The Provost; 3 E, Stanford in A, The Spirit of the Lord (Elgar), Rev Canon D Atkinson.

TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9 M; 10 S Euch, Jesus Christ the Apple Tree (Poston), Darke in A minor, O taste and see (Vaughan Williams); 6 E, Responses (Smith), Westminster service (Howells), Te lucis ante *terminum (Gardiner), The Dean.*

WELLS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Schubert in G, Pebendary D Goodman; 11.30 M, Stanford in B flat, Like as the hart (Howells); 3 E, Jackson in G, Lo star led chiefs (Crotch), Rev P Walker.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC; 10 M, Responses (Rose), Second Service (Tomkins), Ubi caritas (Duruflé), Canon D Gray; 11.15 Abbey Euch, Missa Papae Marcelli (Palestrina), O Lord give thy holy Spirit (Tallis), Rev P Hulme; 3 E, Bairstow in G, Christus vincit (MacMillan), Rev R Holloway.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7, 8, 9, 12, 5.30, 7 M; 10.30 SM, Mass (Stravinsky), Mater Christi (Taverner), Like as the hart/Pacan (Howells), 10 MP, 3.30 V & B, Magnificat secundi toni (Malcolm), A spotless rose (Howells), Toccata (Gigout).

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 10.30 M, Te Deum in C (Stanford), There is no rose (Houbert), Rev C Stewart; 11.30 Euch, Mass for 5 voices (Byrd), Toccata in C (Bach); 3.30 E, Blow in G, Tota pulchra es Maria (Bruckner), Rev M Jones.

YORK MINSTER: 8, 8.45 HC; 10 S Euch, Stanford in G, Rt Rev J Jones; 11.30 M, Responses (Ayleward), Coll Reg (Howells); 4 EP; 6.30 Epiphany Procession.

ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 8 HC; 11 Choral M, Responses (Rose), Dyson in D, *Vaughan Williams in G, Thou wilt keep him* in perfect peace (Wesley), Rev R Griffiths.

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 8, *10, 6 LM; 11.30 SM, Mgr L White.*

ST GILES' CATHEDRAL, Edinburgh: 8, 10 MS & HC, Mass Vidi Speciosam (Victoria), The Minister; 11.30 MS, Three Kings (Cornelius), The Minister; 8 ES, Rev J Cuthbertson.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, London: 8 HC, Responses (Leighton); 9.30 Euch; 11 M, Boyce in A, Gloria in excelsis Deo (Weelkes), Rev M Saward; 3.15 E, Stanford in A, Lo star led chiefs (Crotch), Rt Rev Monsignor G Stack.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, Dundee: 8 HC; 9.40 Sung C; 11 Choral Euch, Spatzen Mass (Mozart), Wonder (Piccolo), Be still my soul (Whitlock), The Provost; 6.30 Choral E, Responses (Smith), Kelly in C, Sing joyfully (Byrd).

ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 8, 5.15 LM; 10.20 MP; 11 HM, Missa Brevis (Kodaly), Quem vidistis pastores (Poulenc), Rev P Johnstone; 6 E&B, Second Service (Leighton), Long long ago (Howells), Rev P McGeary.

ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 9 C; 11, Rev R Tice; *6.30, Rev C Hobbs.*

AMERICAN CHURCH IN LONDON, Tottenham Court Rd, W1:

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11 Missa brevis (Palestrina), Look down O Lord (Byrd), Ave Maria (Willaert).

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15, 6.30 Rev S Hood.

FARM STREET, W1: 7.30, 8.30, 10, 12.15, 4.15, 6.15 LM; 11 HM, Missa Quam gloriosum/Jesu dulcis memoria (Vittoria), *Pange lingua (Palestrina), Fr M Beattie.*

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass, Missa Brevis in F (Mozart), O magnum mysterium (Victoria), 12.30, 4.30, 7 M; 3.30 V & B, 3.30 Puer natus est nobis (Guerrero).

WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 9.45 HC; 11 MS, Rev Dr G Barritt.

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL *(Methodist), SW1: 11, Bishop of London*, 6.30, Westminster Christian Council United Service, Rev Dr R Tudor.

ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 HC, St Vedast Church; Foster Land EC2, Christian Unity Service, *Rev R Englund: 7 Jazz Vespers.*

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 9 HC; 11 M, Weelkes (Short), Magi videntes stellam (anon), Rev D Burton Evans; 6.30 E, Tallis in the Dorian mode, O magnum mysterium (Willaert), Rev A Winter.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 Choral M & Euch, Short Service (Gibbons), Coronation Gloria (Stanford), Confirm the hope thy word allows (Watson), *Canon J Oates*; 6.30 Choral E, Responses (Byrd), Ward 1st service; Almighty God the fountain of all wisdom (Tomkins), Canon J Oates.

ST CLEMENT DANES: 11 M, Noble in B minor, Almighty everlasting God (Gibbons), Martin Hines.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11 Confirmation, Rev J. McIndoe; 6.30, Rev C MacLeod.

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Rheinberger in E flat, Like as the hart (Howells), Rev G Watkins.

ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC; 9.45 Family C; 11 S Euch, Mass in honour of St Joseph; Flor Peeters, Rev J Yates.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 11 S Euch, Little Organ Mass (Haydn), Almighty and everlasting God (Gibbons), Rev Taco Bos.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8 HC; 9.45 Euch, St Martin's Service (Stringer), Ye choirs of new Jerusalem (Stanford), O magnum mysterium (Poulenc), O nata lux de lumine (Tallis), Rev W Ratchford; 11.30 Visitors, Responses (Rose), Cantate Domino (Anglican Chant), Cantique de Jean Racine (Faure), Rev B Schunemann; 2.45 Chinese, Rev H Che; 5 Choral E, Responses (Rose), *Coll Reg (Howells), O Lorde the maker of al thinge* (Joubert); 6.30 ES, Rev J Pridmore.

ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, Kensington *W8: 8, 12.30 HC; 9.30 Euch, Rev F Celli*; 11.15 Choral M, The Vicar; 6.30 Choral E, Rev F Celli.

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 9, 9.45, 7 LM; 11 HM, Missa S Dominici (Rubbra), Canon P Pilkington; 6 E&B.

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8, 9 HC; 11 S Euch, Missa super le ne menge poinct de porco (Lassus), Verbum caro factum est (Hassler), Laetentur caeli (Handl), Canon G Reid.

ST GEORGE'S CHAPEL, Windsor Castle: 8.30 HC; 10.45 M, Responses (Leighton), Jubilate in C (Britten), The Dean; 11.45 S Euch, Mass for 4 voices (Byrd); 5.15 E, Responses (Smith), Walmisley in D minor, Lobet den Herrn (Bach).

CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC; 11 M, Responses (Radcliffe), First Service (Hunt), Quem vidistis pastores (Poulenc), Canon J G Murphy.

CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, Jesu the very thought of thee (Bairstow), Canon J Hardaker.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 11 M, Moeran in E flat, Almighty God which hast me brought (Ford); 3.30 E, How goodly are thy tents (Ouseley), Noble in B minor, How lovely are the messengers (Mendelssohn).

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street, W1: 8.15 HC; 11 S Euch, Little organ Mass (Haydn), Lo star lead chiefs (Crotch).

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 S Euch, Coll Reg (Howells), The Chaplain.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, Responses (Thalben-Ball), Dyson in F, Boyce in A, The Master.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 M, Let hearts awaken (Plainsong), Lo star led chiefs (Crotch), Rev N Lawrence; 12 HC.

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: 11 S Euch, I sing of a *maiden (Charles Waters), Quem pastores* (John Rutter), Rev C French.

TRADE: 071 481 1982
PRIVATE: 071 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

FAX: 071 481 9313
FAX: 071 782 7828

No one is worthy of me who cares more for father or *mother than me: no one is* worthy of me who cares more for son or daughter.
Mattew 10 : 37 (REB)

BIRTHS

LAKIN - On January 17th 1995 at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Amanda and Michael, a son, *Hugo* Alexander, a brother for Johnny and Piers.

McGUINNESS - On January 16th 1995 at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Victoria (née Pratt) and Paul, a son, Angus Spike.

RIDDELL - On 18th January, to Caroline (née Sharp) and James, a daughter, Poppy Anne.

RUSSELL FLINT - On 3rd January 1995, to Christine (née McCall) and James, a daughter, Chloe Lusia.

RYSTE - On January 16th at High Wycombe General Hospital, to Siw and Jon P., a son, Kasper Nikolai, a *brother for Julianne and Jon* Anders.

SAGLIO - On January 15th 1995, in London, to Tara (née Stapleton-Cotton) and *Laurent, a daughter*, Clementine Lily.

SAMUEL - On Saturday 14th January, to Frances (née Ruddy) and Raymond, a son, Sebastian Joseph, a brother for Rupert and Christian.

WEBSTER - On 14th January, to Rachel (née Apps) and David, a son, Sam, a brother for Henry and Chloë.

WOOTTON - On January 16th 1995 at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Caroline (née Wilcocks) and Ian, a daughter, Charlotte Elizabeth Jane.

YATES - On 18th January at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Rosie-Anne (née Cookson) and Christian, a daughter, Pandora Maria, a sister for Ivo.

THE TIMES
NOTICE TO READERS
Our new telephone number for Birth, Marriage and Death announcements is
071 782 7272 or fax 071 782 7827

DEATHS

ANDREWS - On January 6th, in Madeira, Rosemary aged 80, of Hampton. The funeral service will be held at 10.30am on Tuesday January 24th at St Mary's Church, Hampton, Middlesex, followed by private cremation. By request, family flowers only, but donations if desired to The Chest Heart and Stroke Association c/o F.W. Paine 118E High Street, Hampton Hill, Middlesex TW12 1NT.

BONNET - On January 19th after long illness most bravely borne, John Louis Felix, deeply loved husband of Audrey and cherished father of Lovel. Funeral Service at Putney Vale Crematorium on Thursday January 26th at 3 pm. Family flowers only.

BOSWELL - On January 19th 1995, at home in Scotland, Mary Patricia Sinclair (née Scott), wife of the late John Patrick Douglas Boswell of Auchinleck. Funeral Service at Masonhill Crematorium, by Ayr, on Tuesday 24th January at 12 noon. Family flowers only please.

CHALLIS - On January 20th at his home in Old Windsor, Clive Wyndham, dear son of Christopher and Peggy, brother of Drummond and Sarah. Enquiries to F. Harrison & Son Funeral Directors, 40 Harvest Road, Englefield Green, Surrey. (0784) 432165.

CHAPMAN - Tragically on January 9th, Dorothy Ingrid, formerly of Tufnell Park. Funeral Service at Charing Crematorium, Kent, on Tuesday January 24th at 12 noon. Enquiries to her sister Jean, tel: (0797) 344571.

JONES - On January 18th 1995, peacefully at her home in Prestatyn, Alilias Forrester in her 99th year. Widow of the late Leslie Jones who survived as a P.O.W. in Colditz. Service at Whitford Parish Church, Tuesday January 24th. Enquiries (0745) 331182.

LUNNON - On 17th January 1995, serenely, Kathleen "Kay" (née Wooding), widow of Ted. Greatly loved and enjoyed by family and friends. Funeral Service on Wednesday 25th January at 4.30 pm Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead. Enquiries F.W. Paine, tel: (081) 979-5343.

McGREGOR - Peacefully at home on 19th January after a courageous and dignified fight against cancer, Julia Anne McGregor (née Gibson) beloved wife of Leslie, loving mother of Ross and much loved sister of Janet and Judith. Funeral at Christchurch Chelsea on Wednesday January 25th at 1.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to The Royal Marsden Hospital SW3.

MUNKMAN - Charles Atkin F.C.A., died peacefully on January 19th, loving husband of Mary and devoted father of the late Athena. Private funeral in Leeds. Any enquiries tel: (01263) 514814.

NELSON - (Henry) George, Lord Nelson of Stafford, beloved husband of Pam and much loved father of Caroline, Henry, James and Sally Louise, peacefully on 19th January at the Stafford Clinic, aged 78. Private Funeral Service, 2.30 pm, Tuesday 24th January at Holy Trinity Church, Eccleshall, Staffordshire. Memorial Service to be arranged. Simple family flowers only, (please, no wreaths) or donations to Association of Medical Research Charities ("AMRC") or Tommy's Campaign c/o The Nelson Charitable Trust, The House of Lords, London, SW1.

PARTRIDGE - On January 18th, peacefully, Ann, much loved mother of Tony and Diana, grandmother of Adriana, sister of Pam and Susan. Funeral Service at St Mary's Church, Cadogan Street, SW3, on Monday 23rd January 1995 at 12.15 pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to The Royal National Lifeboat Institution, West Quay Road, Poole, Dorset BH15 1HZ.

PULLAN - On 19th January 1995, peacefully at Molesey Hospital, Horace William Virgo (John) Pullan F.C.A. of Thames Ditton, aged 88. Beloved husband, father and grandfather, good neighbour and loyal friend. Cremation at Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, at 1.30 pm Thursday 26th January. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Princess Alice Hospice, West End Lane, Esher, Surrey. Enquiries F.W. Paine, tel: (081) 979-5343.

SARATZ-BARBER - On January 17th, passed peacefully away, Margaret Frances "Peggy" aged 76, of London and Vevey. Her boundless enthusiasm and joie de vie will be greatly missed by her family and many friends. Funeral, Church of Santa Maria, Pontresina, Switzerland, on Tuesday 24th January.

SHIRLEY - Gerald F., M.B.E. (Mil.), on 19th January 1995, at St Margaret's Somerset Hospice. Much loved. Formerly Director B.O.C.M. Cremation Friday 27th January at Taunton Crematorium. Family flowers only. Donations, if wished, to St Margaret's Somerset Hospice, Taunton TA1 5HA.

TYRRELL-LEWIS - Diane, on 17th January 1995, peacefully at Greengates Nursing Home, Summertown, Oxford, in her 92nd year. The funeral service will take place in the Memorial Chapel, Oxford Crematorium, on Tuesday 24th January at 12.45 pm. Family flowers only please by request. Any enquiries to A.W. Bruce F/D, Summertown, Oxford, tel: (0865) 310907.

IN MEMORIAM – PRIVATE

ARTHUR - In memory of my beloved husband Roy who died one year ago today. Diana.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DIVORCE For sensible advice at a difficult time contact Kim Walsh @ Sayer Moore & Co Solicitors on 081 993 7571 (London W3)

EDIN-KINGS X 3pm 3 Jan 95, both on at Edin-no seats. Dark haired guy, greyish jumper, pale blue jeans, blue covered paperback sat next to brown patterned blouse/red jumpered female at Newcastle. Meet you again, please contact Ms Shona Duncan PO Box 166 Aberdeen.

FARGE. More anon - please contact me at address you know or tel 2542 3123 at same location. Expenses will be covered and your confidentiality is assured. Gordon

JACQUIE Happy anniversary, 6 months to go, don't be late! Lots of love, Stuart.

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LEGAL NOTICES

NO.007698 of 1994
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF
R.G. FRANCIS LIMITED
AND IN THE MATTER OF
THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 1st december 1994 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the share capital of the above named Company from £320,000 to £165,400.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2LL on Wednesday the 1st day of February 1995.

ANY creditor or shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of share capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

Dated this 20th day of January 1995
Signed
Wortley Redmayne & Kershaw
Stonebridge House
Stonebridge Walk
High Street
Chelmsford Essex CM1 1EY
Solicitors for the above named Company

No 008124 of 1994
IN THE HIGH COURT
OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF
MORAN HOLDINGS PLC
- and -
IN THE MATTER OF
THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 21st of December 1994 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of share premium account of the above-named Company by the sum of £2,750,435.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday 1st February 1995.

ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of share premium account should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

DATED this 17th day of January 1995
Theodore Goddard
150 Aldersgate Street
London EC1A 4EJ
Solicitors for the above-named Company. (370/6996.SB).

NOTICE OF A MEETING
OF CREDITORS
In The Matter of
LEAWAY INTERNATIONAL
LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at the Oakland Hotel, 2 Reeves Way, South Woodham Ferrers, Essex on 24th January 1995 at 11.15 am for the purposes mentioned on sections 99 to 101 of the said Act.

A list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors may be inspected free of charge at Cork Gully, Cloth Hall Court, Infirmary Street, Leeds between 10.00 am and 5.00 pm on the two business days prior to the meeting.

Creditors wishing to vote at the meeting must (unless they are individual creditors attending in person) lodge their proxies at Cork Gully, Albion Court, 5 Albion Place, Leeds, no later than 12.00 noon on 23rd January 1995.

Creditors must submit a proof of debt before voting and, unless they surrender their security, secured creditors must give particulars of their security and its value.

By Order of the Board
B. Capeon
Dated: 10th January 1995.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
COOPER BROTHERS
(ST ALBANS) LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at 10.30am on Thursday the 26th day of January 1995 at the offices of Ernst & Young, 400 Capability Green, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU1 3LU for the purposes mentioned in Section 100 and 101 of the said Act.

A list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors may be inspected at Ernst & Young, 400 Capability Green, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU1 3LU between the hours of 10.00am and 4.00pm on 24 and 25 January 1995.

For the purposes of voting a statement of claim and any proxy intended to be used at the meeting must be lodged with the secretary of the Company, c/o 400 Capability Green, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU1 3LU not later than 12 noon on 25 January 1995.

Dated this 18th day of January 1995
R COOPER
DIRECTOR

CONTRACTS & TENDERS

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE is hereby given that the Sixty-Fourth ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the GOVERNORS of King Edward VII's Hospital for Officers (Sister Agnes Founder) will be held in Agnes Keyser House, Beaumont Street, London, W1N 1RD at 5.00 pm on Thursday, 16 March, 1995. By Order Brigadier C. J. M. Harrison, OBE, House Governor.

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the *ESTATE of any of the deceased* person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified; after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

MANIGS, JANIS MANIGS late of Coventry, Warwickshire died there on 24 March 1991 (undisposed residuary estate £35,000). Arija Putnaja and Ilga Putnaja of the kin of the above-named are requested to apply to Messrs. Varley Hibbs & Co, Solicitors Kirby House, Little Park Street, Coventry CV1 2JZ.

MAY, MARY CHARLOTTE of MONKS HATCH, 15 CHILBOLTON AVENUE, WINCHESTER SO22 5HB died on 5TH SEPTEMBER 1994 particulars to LEE BOLTON & LEE Solicitors, of 1 THE SANCTUARY, WESTMINSTER, LONDON SW1P 3JT before 22ND MARCH 1995.

MORRISON, SHELIA (otherwise SHEILA) LUCY, of 29 CROSSFELL ROAD, HEMEL HEMPSTEAD HP3 8BG died on 5TH OCTOBER 1994 particulars to NABARRO NATHANSON Solicitors of 50 STRATTON STREET, LONDON W1X 5FL (Ref. AJB) before 22ND MARCH 1995.

RACHEL ANN GRIFFITHS DECEASED, late of Croydon. Died on 21st September 1994. Particulars of any claims are to be made to Rawlence & Hirst, Solicitors of 53 Chatsworth Road, Croydon CR0 1LE. Reference MDH, before 31st March, 1995.

SCHLEE, HEATHER FLORENCE otherwise HEATHER of 5 KELLETT GROVE, 9 MOUNT KELLETT ROAD, THE PEAK, HONG KONG died on 30th OCTOBER 1993 particulars to WINWARD FEARON & CO Solicitors of 35 BOW STREET, LONDON WC2E 7AU (Ref: PS/WGHF) before 22nd MARCH 1995.

Sidney Henry Hatcher of 68 Farm Fields, South Croydon, Surrey, CR2 0HP. Died on 24th December 1994. Description: Company Director. Particulars to Matthew Arnold & Baldwin P.O. Box 101, 20 Station Road, Watford, Hertfordshire WD1 1HT Before 21 March 1995.

STAIR, EILEEN of FLAT 46 VICEROY COURT, PRINCE ALBERT ROAD, LONDON NW8 died on 14th NOVEMBER 1994 particulars to ROWE & MAW Solicitors of 20 BLACK FRIARS LANE, LONDON EC4V 6HD (Ref: 390/280/23682-3) before 22ND MARCH 1995.

WATTS, LILY of 55 [illegible] Road, London SE25 died on 14th November 1990. Particulars to STREATHERS, Solicitors of 53 CLAPHAM HIGH STREET, LONDON SW4 7TH before 23rd MARCH 1995.

[illegible]

OBITUARIES

MEHDI BAZARGAN

Mehdi Bazargan, Prime Minister of Iran in 1979, died in Zurich yesterday aged 87. He was born in Tehran in September 1907.

AN EARLY political opponent of the Shah and one of the architects of the revolution that overthrew him, Mehdi Bazargan went on to become Iran's first Prime Minister after the Shah's downfall. But he remained in office only nine months during which time he discovered that executive power remained with Ayatollah Khomeini, the symbolic and actual leader of the Islamic revolution. Bazargan thus resigned on November 6, two days after radical Islamic fundamentalists seized control of the American Embassy, taking 52 American diplomats hostage — a siege that was to last a year and contribute significantly to the defeat of President Jimmy Carter by Ronald Reagan in the 1980 American presidential election.

Bazargan himself remained politically active in Tehran, a voice of middle-class moderation, who spoke out as courageously against the intolerance of the Khomeini regime as he had against the Shah's and — at some risk of being branded a traitor — voicing public opposition to the continuation of Iran's war with Iraq after the invading Iraqi forces had been expelled in 1982. In 1986 he was briefly kidnapped after he formed a new political organisation in what he clearly hoped might be a more pluralistic political environment.

Born into a family of merchants from the Azerbaijani city of Tabriz, Mehdi Bazargan won a scholarship from the state to study civil engineering at the École Centrale des Arts et des Manufactures de Paris. He returned before the Second World War to join the staff of Tehran University, and eventually became Dean of the Faculty of Technology.

His reputation for energy and integrity, and his support for the Government of Prime Minister Mohammed Mosaddeq, who nationalised the Iranian assets of the former Anglo-Iranian Oil Company in 1951, won him appointment to the chairmanship of the newly-formed National Iranian Oil Company. When that Government was overthrown in August 1953 and power passed into the hands of Mohammed Reza Shah, he founded the underground National Resistance Movement.

Having independent means as the managing director of his own engineering companies, he was able to continue clandestine activities against the regime of the Shah for many years afterwards, a pursuit that led to his imprisonment on several occasions.

In 1961, together with the late Ayatollah Mahmud Taleghani, he founded the Iran Freedom Movement, and urged the Shia Muslim clergy to end their political isolation and intervene on the side of civil rights activists. He was arrested again and this time spent several years at the Borazjan jail in the inhospitable south, where his sight was threatened by infections.

Following his release, he was less overtly provocative to the authorities, but nevertheless continued his activities as a lay preacher, trying to instil in the youth of the country an enthusiasm for an Islamic state, a concept which had previously repelled many of them as retrogressive.

In November 1978, when the revolution was on the brink of success, he travelled to Paris to consult the exiled Ayatollah Khomeini who, in the public mind, had become established as the leader of the revolution. Although Bazargan's view of the Ayatollah as an intolerant extremist was again confirmed for him there, he became one of the latter's leading representatives in Tehran in negotiations with army commanders and the last Prime Minister under the monarchy, Shapour Bakhtiar (who was assassinated in 1991). Bakhtiar had previously been a deputy leader of the opposition National Front to which Bazargan had also belonged.

Soon after Ayatollah Khomeini's return to Tehran on February 1, 1979, he named Bazargan as Prime Minister-designate. Bazargan seemed content to await the holding of free elections by Bakhtiar, and was moving towards negotiations to that end with the Government when the Marxist Fedai and Islamic Mujahedin guerrillas stormed the army barracks. Bakhtiar went underground and his former comrade Bazargan moved into his office as the first Prime Minister of the new regime on February 11.

His first act was to appoint a seven-man cabinet which included Karim Sanjabi, the leader of the National Front, as the Foreign Minister. But he soon discovered that his power was illusory and that real authority was being wielded by the Ayatollah and his secretive Council of the Revolution. Furthermore, Islamic committees established by mullahs sprang up everywhere and bypassed the official Government. Eight senior generals of the army, whom Bazargan had assured of safety, were executed after summary trials by the Ayatollah's men in the first few days, and Bazargan threatened resignation a mere three weeks after assuming office.

But he stayed on, and the atrocities continued. By August 1979 more than 500 men and women had been executed, the towns of Kurdistan were being bombed to suppress the Kurdish minority's demand for self-government, and an Assembly of Experts composed almost entirely of mullahs was being set up to write a new constitution for the country that would make permanent the rule of the clergy.

For Bazargan the seizure of the American Embassy was the last straw. From 1981 to 1984 he served as a Member of Parliament for Tehran, but was not allowed to play an active part in the Majlis. He and his political associates from the Freedom Movement were several times assaulted by other MPs; their offices outside were ransacked and their popular newspaper, *Mizan*, was closed down.

In the parliamentary elections of 1984 Bazargan and his colleagues did not stand as candidates, on the ground that they were not allowed to communicate their policies to the electorate. But he continued to profess loyalty to the Islamic state and said that he merely sought to reform it from within.

Bazargan believed that Islam was compatible with a liberal society. The courage he had displayed in his fight against the authoritarian Pahlavi monarchy helped to make the idea of an Islamic state respectable. However, his support for Ayatollah Khomeini proved disastrous. His dreams for a revival of Islam had turned into nightmares. The dominant image of the religion in the world was one of violence and intolerance, thanks in no small measure to the Islamic state in whose creation he had been instrumental. That state had become one of the most oppressive in the world, as well as one of the poorest with per capita income plummeting in 16 years from $2,000 to $400.

Mehdi Bazargan is survived by his wife Malak, two sons and three daughters.

CÉCILE de ROTHSCHILD

CECIL BEATON, COURTESY OF SOTHEBY'S

Cécile de Rothschild, collector and friend of Greta Garbo, died in France on January 17 aged 81. She was born on March 15, 1913.

PHOTOGRAPHS of Greta Garbo during her long years of retirement often showed her striding out gamely accompanied by a handsome woman with white hair. This was Cécile de Rothschild. So often were these pictures seen and so much in unison were the two figures that the author David Pryce-Jones once compared them to a pair of Grenadier guardsmen.

Cécile de Rothschild was the younger daughter of Baron Robert de Rothschild. She was the sister of Alain, a keen yachtsman and of Élie, banker and polo player who, with his wife Liliane Fould-Springer, is well-known in both Paris and London. There are a considerable number of Rothschilds and the legend is that each Rothschild baby born is $150 million rich and 150 years old. At a time of monetary crisis in France, one Rothschild was heard to mutter: "Même Edmond est touché", indicating the gravity of the situation.

Cécile's father, Baron Robert, was a grandson of the founder of the family, James de Rothschild. He lived at a great mansion, 23 Avenue de Marigny in Paris, and at the Château Laversine near Chantilly. Here he entertained artists, musicians and composers, men such as Henri Sauguet and Poulenc. The pianist, Artur Rubinstein, made his debut outside Poland at the Paris house. Cécile was raised in this highly cultured atmosphere.

One day her father returned from London announcing to the four children that he had something beginning with a "C" and that if any of them guessed it they could have it. While ideas such as "cheval" proved wide of the mark, Cécile (then aged 13) suggested "Cézanne" and acquired *Les Baigneuses*, the first of a collection to which she added considerably later in her life. Not only did she have the most astute eye for art in her immediate family; she also had the resources to buy, and she loved early Picassos, and spotted Egon Schiele long before he became famous.

During the Second World War Baron Robert and his two daughters escaped to America. Meanwhile the Paris mansion was occupied by a German commandant and often visited by Goering.

Cécile spoke in a lyrical, deep, nasal voice. She was good-humoured, kind and succeeded in leading a relatively unconventional life, despite her great wealth. She was a golfer of professional class and a connoisseur of champagne. She was also an expert gardener, working on her garden at Noisy-sur-Oise with Russel Page. Renowned as an incredible gourmet, she served the most delicious food in her Paris apartment in the rue Faubourg St Honoré, formerly the home of Coco Chanel. To her table came Melina Mercouri, Maurice Chevalier and many others.

More actively, she had a passion for motor-cars, enjoying nothing more than tinkering with their engines. She loved to travel and for years hired a yacht which plied its way round the Mediterranean during the summer, with *tout-Paris* aboard.

Yet Cécile de Rothschild will probably be best remembered as the friend of Greta Garbo, a role she assumed under dramatic circumstances and which she maintained against all odds, stoically enduring the less than generous treatment meted out by that difficult and temperamental star.

Garbo had first been introduced to the Rothschilds by Eric Goldschmid-Rothschild, their cousin, with whom she conducted a romance in the 1950s. Garbo felt at ease in the rich Rothschild world, knowing that there was comfort and security at hand, not to mention the chauffeur-driven cars and excellent cuisine. She and Cécile were at their happiest when setting off for long walks and returning hours later than expected.

In October 1964 Garbo and her friend Georges Schlee, dubbed her "Kafkaesque guard" by Kenneth Tynan, dined with Cécile at the apartment in the rue Faubourg St Honoré following their return from the South of France. Afterwards Garbo returned to the Hotel Crillon, while Schlee continued his walk, only to collapse and die. Garbo took fright, fearing press interest, and disappeared, running back to Cécile, who hid her for several days. With Schlee dead, and Garbo publicly reviled by his widow, she was vulnerable. From then on Cécile took on the role of her protector and best friend.

Cecil Beaton, who was obsessed by Garbo for most of his life, judged that Cécile was "a very good companion for her, a person of complete integrity and lack of vulgarity, a person who has qualities and knows values . . . and she has nothing to do but make things easier for Greta". But when, in 1972, he published his diaries revealing his affair with Garbo, Cécile was in the forefront of those denouncing him for his betrayal.

For many years Garbo holidayed on Cécile's yacht, where she proved a most selfish and demanding guest. Yet somehow Cécile was prepared to tolerate her worst moods and the tension she created around her. She was besotted by her and no whim of Garbo's was too onerous for her to try to meet. Although Cécile was the hostess and had a variety of other guests on board to entertain, Garbo always succeeded in making all plans revolve around herself.

One small example of the demands she was accustomed to make arose when her New York apartment was burgled in the winter of 1982. She immediately telephoned Cécile in Paris and asked her to let the Rex Harrisons know — all this despite the fact that the Harrisons were living in the same building a few floors above her.

Cécile de Rothschild remained friends with Greta Garbo until the latter's death in 1990. She was never a happy woman, suffering from an indecisive streak in her character. And she was understandably hurt when Garbo died without bequeathing her even a trinket. Yet she loyally continued to protect her memory. She never married.

GEORGE JEFFERY

George Jeffery, bookseller, died from a heart attack in Dorset on December 31 aged 69. He was born in London on March 31, 1925.

THE death of George Jeffery ends the centuries-old tradition of selling books from market stalls in the area around St Paul's and Fleet Street. For nearly forty years Jeffery ran the last surviving bookstalls in the Farringdon Road — the authorities are issuing no more licences — catering to succeeding generations of London collectors, dealers and office workers on their lunch break. Groaning under stacks of the *Illustrated London News* and *Punch*, leather-bound folios and quartos, prints and piles of vellum documents, his stalls made a scene little changed since the days of Mayhew.

George Jeffery was the third generation in his family to run bookstalls in the Farringdon Road, his grandfather having set up there just before the First World War. Born locally in Clerkenwell, Jeffery was already minding the bookstalls as a schoolboy, sometimes having to extract his father from a pub to deal with an unpriced book. He was apprenticed at 17 as a printer, and served during the war as a paratrooper, seeing action at Arnhem.

He took over the bookstalls on the death of his father in 1957 and ran them until his retirement in 1993. By then, his were the only bookstalls left in what had once been a thriving general market.

Jeffery's bookstalls were known for the huge flow of books — some 2,000 a week — and also for their cheapness and variety. The stock came from auctions, job lots and country house sales — the library of *The Times* when it moved from Printing House Square was one notable clearance.

Jeffery, centre, at the Farringdon Road book market

New stock was put out early on Saturday mornings and drew a large group of regular customers — mostly those academics and bookshop owners (the mark-up on Jeffery's books could be considerable) prepared to brave the mercifully brief scrum. Jeffery also ran his own auction, somewhat misnamed as the prices were already pencilled in but the first to shout for the book when he held it secured it. Inevitable disputes were settled by the toss of a coin.

Jeffery probably worked harder than any of his fellow booksellers, rising early and setting up the stalls six days a week, packing up at the end of each lunchtime. He had a ruddy complexion, and was stocky but strong — his capacity to carry great armfuls of heavy books often astonished his customers.

Despite the military precision with which he ran his stall, keeping his tarpaulins down until fixed opening times, he was actually the most benign of men. Many will remember being called aside to find the book they wanted in the back of his van, often years after they had asked for it.

His wrath was reserved for the occasional book thief and those who tried to haggle over his already low prices. Feature journalists met a similar fate, for Jeffery regarded himself as a bookseller, not a tourist attraction. Bargains and small treasures were often found, the most famous being an unrecorded manuscript of Sir Thomas More, subsequently sold at Sotheby's for £43,000. Jeffery was philosophical about this, his view being that if he had spent his whole life examining every piece of paper that came his way, he still might have found nothing. But he was also shrewd enough not to ask the full market value in any case, thus ensuring a fast turnover on his books.

In latter years developers restricted his activities. His stretch of road had a new office block built along it (subsequently voted by one newspaper the ugliest new building of the year) and his warehouse was lost to redevelopment. His retirement allowed him to indulge his interests in racing and boxing: he had been a keen amateur boxer in the Army.

He is survived by his wife Mary, whom he married in 1952, and five children, one of whom — also George Jeffery — continues bookselling from a shop nearby.

JOSEPH GRIZZARD

Joseph Grizzard, deputy editor of the *Sunday Mirror*, 1959-74, died on January 14 aged 73. He was born on April 12, 1921.

JOE GRIZZARD was a key figure on the *Sunday Mirror* during the 1960s and 1970s, when its sales (until 1963 as the *Sunday Pictorial*) never dipped below four million and at one point topped five million. He was a superb tabloid technician, with an unerring flair for the deft monosyllable to fit 60 point capitals.

Crisply he made his wishes known and got them accepted by his sub-editors' table. But, with his unfailing courtesy, he never fitted the hard-drinking, hard-swearing image into which most Mirror group editors sought to grow. At the court of Hugh Cudlipp, the Mirror group's editorial chief until 1973, he was always a figure who stood slightly apart. And, perhaps because Cudlipp himself was nothing if not an extrovert, Grizzard was never rewarded with an editorship of his own.

He came to Fleet Street by the classic route of the working journalist. While still at Loughton School in Essex, he wrote a weekly column for the *West Essex Gazette*. Even before the Second World War broke out he volunteered for the Essex Regiment and in 1945, after being demobbed, went to the *Sheffield Telegraph* as a sub-editor.

In less than a year he had got to London — on the *Daily Mirror* sub-editors' table in Geraldine House, Fetter Lane. There his ascent from the bottom end to the top was of dazzling speed.

He finally left the Mirror group, as an executive director, shortly before the Maxwell takeover in 1984. In a piece he wrote for the *UK Press Gazette* in 1985 he was the first to warn — unheeded — that Maxwell was siphoning money out of the Mirror Pension Fund.

Grizzard's unshakeable integrity was recognised by his appointment as a JP and as a Commissioner of Taxes for the Inland Revenue. In retirement he also acted as an unpaid adviser on public relations issues to successive presidents of the Board of Deputies of British Jews.

While in Sheffield he met and married his wife Enid. She survives him together with their son and daughter.

ON THIS DAY

January 21 1937

This sidelight on Dickens's social life was written by Charles R. Williams, a member of the club

GARRICK CLUB ELECTION
CHARLES DICKENS

From a Correspondent

A hundred years ago to-day the committee of the Garrick Club met at 35, King Street, Covent Garden, the club's original premises, and, among other business, elected a new member. The proposer was a Dr Millingen, the seconder a popular comedian, J.P. Harley, and the candidate was described simply as "Charles Dickens, Esq., of Furnival's Inn."

One would have supposed that Dickens, then 24, having only in the last year emancipated himself from Parliamentary reporting and being at the start of his career as writer, would have welcomed admission to a club which numbered among its members nearly all the established authors of the time. Such an assumption would be wrong, for it appears that his candidature was a matter of indifference to Dickens and that the idea came from his publisher, Bentley, himself a member of the club, who presumably wished him to become known in the literary world and to be in touch at the Garrick with possible contributors.

Though unfortunate, it is inevitable that Dickens's membership of the Garrick should be chiefly remembered because of his famous quarrel with Thackeray arising out of Edmund Yates's expulsion for writing anonymously, and refusing to apologize for, a scurrilous personal article about Thackeray, a fellow-member. Dickens supported Yates throughout this heated controversy, and though his championship of a youthful protégé may have done credit to his heart, it did little credit to his sense of values. The result was an estrangement from Thackeray which lasted until just before the latter's death in 1863. It has sometimes been stated that Dickens resigned from the Garrick when Yates was expelled. This is incorrect. Dickens remained a member of the club but resigned from the committee by letter from Gad's Hill, dated July 12, 1858, in which he reiterated thus his contention that the committee had no right to adjudicate on what he insisted was a question of taste:

> Gentlemen, — As I had the misfortune to differ from you on the whole principle of last Saturday's discussion, and as I cannot take upon myself the very difficult and unsatisfactory functions which you understand to attach to your Body, but which I believe that Body has no right to assume, I beg your permission to resign my seat at your Board.

This frigid politeness is in delightful contrast with the warmth of a letter to a fellow-member written 10 days later:

> The Committee seem to me to have gone perfectly mad. I never met with such ridiculous and preposterous imbecility, in my life before. Like you I should "boil with indignation" if I had not a vent. But I have. Upon my soul, when I picture them to myself in that back-yard, conceiving that they shake the Earth, I fall into fits of laughter which make my daughters laugh away at Gad's Hill, until the tears run down their cheeks.

From this time until Thackeray's death it is unlikely that Dickens visited the club much. Thackeray was an habitué, and embarrassment would have resulted. Later, however, Dickens resumed active membership, and, indeed, as the candidates' book shows, during this last period he proposed three candidates. Unhappily, the last candidate whom he proposed, W.H. Wills, his close friend and working editor of *All the Year Round*, was blackballed in March, 1865. That was the end. Dickens promptly resigned for the last time.

THE TIMES
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THE TIMES TODAY

SATURDAY JANUARY 21

NEWS

Ambassador to Washington quits

■ Sir Robin Renwick, British Ambassador in Washington and one of the last top diplomats of the Thatcher era, is to leave the Foreign Office. He will be replaced by Sir John Kerr.

Sir Robin, the Ambassador to South Africa from 1987 to 1991, has been offered a senior post in the City and will return to Britain this summer after four years that have seen considerable strains on the Anglo-American relationship .... Pages 1, 2

NUT abandons boycott of testing

■ Almost two million children aged seven, 11 and 14 will sit government tests without threat of disruption this summer after the National Union of Teachers agreed to abandon its two-year boycott .... Page 1

Phone challenge

The RAC has advised drivers to challenge police who charged them with using a mobile telephone while driving .... Page 1

Manning arrest

Phillip Manning, who has been on the run for 27 days since his ex-wife was killed Christmas day, has been arrested .... Page 1

Life sentence

A man who stabbed a police sergeant to death during a bungled raid was jailed for life with a recommendation that he serve a minimum 25 years .... Page 4

VJ-Day protest

Survivors of Japanese prisoner of war camps have been denied their own commemorative service to mark VJ-Day .... Page 5

IRA pair jailed

Two IRA terrorists who were to spearhead a mainland bombing campaign have been jailed for 25 and 20 years .... Page 7

Trust fund cuts

The trust fund set up in for the victims of the thalidomide drug disaster has been forced to stop index-linking benefits .... Page 9

Quake failures

Tomiichi Murayama, the Japanese Prime Minister, admitted shortcomings in handling the aftermath of the earthquake in Kobe .... Page 13

Chechens defiant

Chechens have declared that the loss of the Presidential Palace would make no difference to their struggle .... Page 12

At Santer's side

"Jacques Santer may be the European Commission's new king, but Jim Cloos is the philosopher." George Brock reports .... Page 15

Britons kidnapped

Rebels in Sierra Leone have seized two more British employees of a Swiss-owned mine .... Page 17

The dawning of the age of Ophiuchus

■ The august stargazers at the Royal Astronomical Society now say that the skies should be divided into 13 rather than 12 slices. It may mean that some people will go to bed a Libra and wake up a Virgo. And others will become Ophiuchans .... Pages 1, 3

South African President Nelson Mandela with F.W. de Klerk, the Second Deputy President, after they had met to resolve a dispute that had threatened to split the multiracial coalition Government. Report, page 17

OPINION

Shadows in the cave: In these remarkable cave paintings, we glimpse with awe the shadow of talents man once took for granted, forgot and has now reclaimed.. Page 19

The car in 1995: Here is a clear chance for the Government to show it can make up its mind about cars and motorists: the sooner that it does so, the better .... Page 19

Peace in our class: While Mrs Shephard must obviously argue as strongly as possible for generous funding of the education service, she would be unwise to adopt all of its presuppositions and prejudices .... Page 19

LETTERS

Citizens' protests and the police .... Page 19

Charles Bremner: M Balladur is striking proof that two centuries after it guillotined the *ancien régime*, France still hankers for aristocratic *hauteur* in its leaders .... Page 18

Simon Jenkins: Now that urban man pays rural man what amounts to a salary, he expects moral peace of mind and a bit of fun .... Page 18

Had the Russian Government been able last month to reassert its control swiftly and with a minimum of force over the breakaway ethnic enclave of Chechenia, then the whole matter by now would probably have been pretty much forgotten

— *The Los Angeles Times*

Lending fall: Mortgage lending by building societies dipped sharply at the end of last year with net advances falling to £623 million from £1,020 million in November .... Page 23

Markets: Shares in London closed sharply lower, with the FT-SE 100 index falling 33.6 to 2,995.0. Volatile dollar trading swept across the foreign exchange. The pound rose 2.04 cents to $1.5902 but eased .39 pfennigs to DM2.3991 .... Page 26

Mehdi Bazargan, former Prime Minister of Iran; **Cécile de Rothschild**, companion to Greta Garbo; **George Jeffery**, bookseller; **Joseph Grizzard**, journalist. Page 21

Rugby union: England face a test of character in Dublin and Wales seek consolation from the weather in Paris in the five nations' championship .... Pages 38, 39, 44

Football: Andy Cole, signed from Newcastle for £7 million, makes his first appearance for Manchester United against Blackburn Rovers tomorrow .... Page 43

Golf: Colin Montgomerie had a nine-under-par 63 to take a three-stroke lead after two rounds of the Dubai Classic .... Page 44

Drive in style: The new motoring section includes the chance to drive a new car every month of the year.

VISION

Food for thought: The science of low-fat foods and high company profits .... Page 3

Heroes and villains: A new series on some of Britain's memorable eccentrics Page 5

Doctors: Cop meets doc in *Dangerfield* .... Page 6

WEEKEND

Big Game: We still hunt the buffalo. Should we?... Page 1

Travel: On safari in Tanzania; survival on the ski slopes; Minneapolis and the Mall of America: action-packed family holidays; playing Shirley Valentine in the Caribbean; winter cruising in the Hebrides...... Pages 18-23

Books: Herman Wouk's latest historical novel; a London suburbanite ventures up North; giving up smoking; Central Asia after Communism .... Pages 14,

For all seasons: Choosing the best plants for the conservatory; gardening queries answered.... Page

Collecting: Comic-strip heroes for sale .... Page

WEEKEND ARTS

The Bernstein files: Was the conductor and composer Leonard Bernstein "framed" by the FBI? His daughter Jamie makes new accusations.......... Weekend, page 5

Priestley revived: *Dangerous Corner*, J.B. Priestley's early thriller, has not lost its compelling power in a new revival .... Weekend, 5

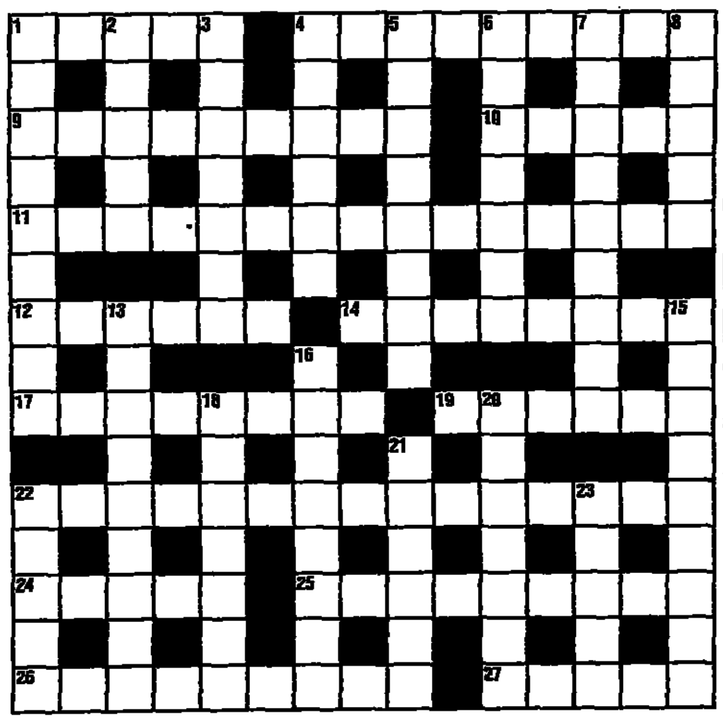
Brits vs Brats: Who will win the Brits? Who will win the Brats? And does anyone outside the pop business care? .... Wee

New on video and record: *Bad Lieutenant* is released on video after a marathon tussle with the censors, and on CD a new *Götterdämmerung*, conducted by Daniel Barenboim .... Weekend, 6, 7

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,758

A bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky uniquely bottled only when at its peak of perfection rather than at a pre-determined age, together with a fine leather credit card wallet, will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address ....



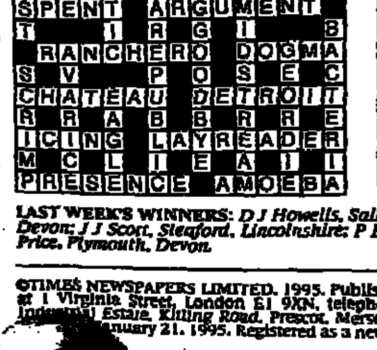
ACROSS

1 Transferred, we hear, by first-class fare from Italy (5)
4 Rioting in Bedford is against the law (9)
9 King's highway that makes progress easy? (5,4)
10 Rice on board two docked vessels (5)
11 The last royal to get engaged (6,3,6)
12 Heavy sportsman weighed before departure (6)
14 Spar with editor-in-chief — the name of the paper is involved (8)
17 Moor by bank where our visitors land (8)
19 Prey of little boys (6)
22 Proposes reports introducing point at issue (4,3,8)
24 Piece of sacred music choir's beginning to perform again (5)
25 Aristocratic Irishman cut by Scot (9)
26 Ernest is bent, pocketing small bribe (9)
27 Old-fashioned and grand English house (5)

DOWN

1 Short piece in *The Standard* covering a plot (9)
2 State broadcast reported decision of authority (3-2)
3 Almost declare, with runs at Oval briskly scored (7)
4 Poet's rimes (6)
5 Tree Edward planted in Cleveland town (3,5)
6 Look at cricket, say, when Pakistani opener goes in (7)
7 Unprincipled and corrupt hedonists (9)
8 The Lady of the Lake when young, perhaps (5)
13 Type of craftsmanship in which ample versatility can be seen (9)
15 Funny new comedian in total control (9)
16 Detective uttered witticism without sophistication (8)
18 Very quickly roused some soldiers (7)
20 To introduce in a gradual way isn't terribly wrong (7)
21 One offering diamonds, perhaps, as well as love? Right (6)
22 Gangs announcing an end to hostilities (5)
23 Old war story most of the papers picked up (5)

Solution to Puzzle No 19,752



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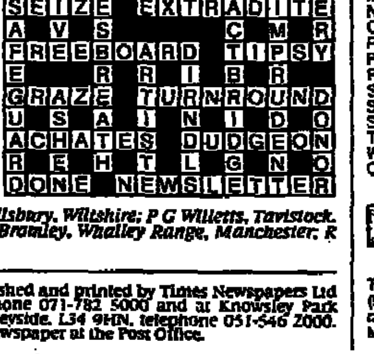

LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: *D J Howells, Salisbury, Wiltshire; P G Willetts, Tavistock, Devon; J J Scott, Sleaford, Lincolnshire; P Bramley, Whalley Range, Manchester; R Price, Plymouth, Devon.*

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TIMES WEATHERCALL

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Devon & Cornwall	704
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Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

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Area within M25	731
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Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

TODAY

Sun rises:	Sun sets:
7.54 am	4.30 pm
Moon sets	Moon rises
9.28 am	10.22 pm

Last quarter January 24

London 4.30 pm to 7.53 am
Bristol 4.40 pm to 8.03 am
Edinburgh 4.22 pm to 8.25 am
Manchester 4.30 pm to 8.10 am
Penzance 4.57 pm to 8.09 am

TOMORROW

Sun rises:	Sun sets:
7.53 am	4.32 pm
Moon sets	Moon rises
9.53 am	11.36 pm

Last quarter January 24

London 4.32 pm to 7.52 am
Bristol 4.42 pm to 8.01 am
Edinburgh 4.24 pm to 8.24 am
Manchester 4.32 pm to 8.09 am
Penzance 4.59 pm to 8.08 am

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	4.21	6.87	4.55	6.95
Aberdeen	4.02	4.10	4.09	4.26
Avonmouth	9.51	12.98	10.13	12.54
Belfast	1.22	3.21	1.43	3.58
Cardiff	9.32	11.65	9.55	11.21
Devonport	8.30	5.28	8.52	5.03
Dover	1.26	6.56	1.38	6.37
Dublin	2.01	3.84	2.24	4.04
Falmouth	7.32	5.09	7.50	4.81
Glasgow	3.40	4.29	3.50	4.78
Harwich	2.13	3.90	2.39	3.86
Holyhead	0.45	5.26	1.00	5.45
Hull	8.57	7.17	9.08	7.43
Ilfracombe	8.36	9.01	8.58	8.76
King's Lynn	8.53	6.54	9.13	6.76
Leith	5.20	5.27	5.34	5.30
Liverpool	1.42	9.08	1.55	9.16
Lowestoft	-	-	0.15	2.26
Margate	2.16	4.66	2.43	4.47
Milford Haven	8.51	6.69	9.12	6.44
Newquay	7.41	6.69	8.03	6.43
Oban	8.06	3.88	8.32	3.63
Penzance	7.17	5.46	7.38	5.19
Portland	9.17	1.96	9.42	1.78
Portsmouth	1.47	4.65	1.58	4.53
Shoreham	1.33	6.14	1.47	6.07
Southampton	1.09	4.48	1.26	4.48
Swansea	8.59	9.14	9.21	8.89
Tees	6.30	5.02	6.37	5.22
W'ton-on-Nze	2.07	4.24	2.36	4.18

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Thursday: Highest temp: St Mary's, Scilly 11C (52F); lowest: Drumalbin, Strathclyde 1C (34F); rain: Sandown, Isle of Wight 1.4in; sun: Kinloss, Moray Firth 5.6hr.

☐ **General:** eastern England will start mainly dry, but cloud and rain already into the far southwest will sweep quickly northeast across all parts, followed by clearer weather with showers, mainly in the west.

Much of northern and eastern Scotland start bright with only scattered showers. Rain soon into Northern Ireland will spread across southern Scotland. Clearer, showery weather will follow. Northern Scotland will become cloudy with rain or snow.

☐ **London, SE, Central S England:** becoming cloudy with rain, heavy at times. Wind southerly, increasing strong to gale force. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **E Anglia, E Midlands, E, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee:** dry start then rain, clearing later. Wind increasing strong to gale force southerly, later becoming south-westerly. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **W Midlands, NW, Cent N England, Lakes, IoM, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland:** rain; then brighter with showers, wintry on hills. Wind fresh to strong south-easterly, veering westerly strong to gale later. Max 5C (41F).

☐ **Channel Is, SW England, Wales:** rain, heavy at times, clearing to broken cloud and squally showers. Wind southerly veering westerly strong to gale. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **Aberdeen, Cent Highlands, Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney:** scattered showers; more persistent rain or snow later. Winds moderate southerly, becoming strong to gale force easterly. Max 4C (39F).

☐ **Shetland:** sunny periods and scattered wintry showers. Wind southerly fresh, becoming easterly gale force later. Max 5C (41F).

☐ **Outlook:** unsettled with showers, wintry in places, and some longer spells of rain in the south.

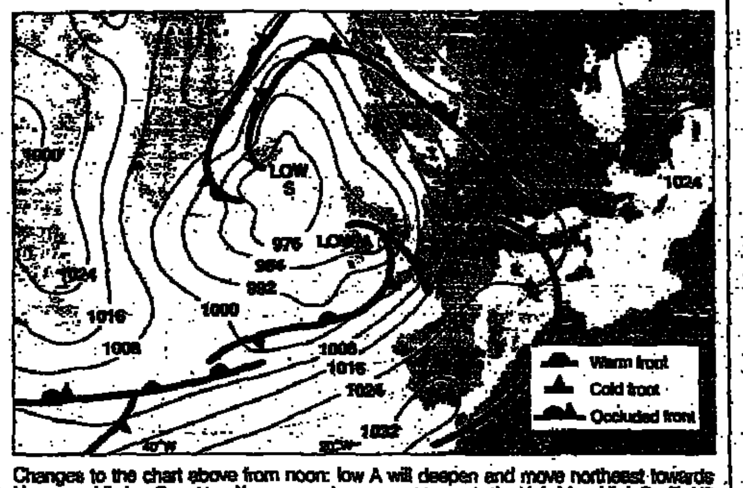
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	X	X	5	41	sh	Liverpool	0.1	0.16	8	46	sl
Anglesey	-	0.98	5	41	h	London	-	0.34	10	50	r
Aspatria	0.4	0.50	3	37	sn	Lowestoft	1.0	0.07	6	43	r
Aviemore	3.9	0.01	3	37	s	Manchester	-	0.09	7	45	r
Belfast	-	-	5	41	c	Margate	-	0.32	8	46	r
Birmingham	-	0.14	7	45	r	Minehead	0.2	0.54	10	50	r
Bognor R	-	0.63	9	48	r	Morecambe	-	0.11	7	45	r
Bournem'th	-	0.52	10	50	r	Newcastle	0.7	0.21	4	39	sl
Bristol	-	0.21	10	50	r	Newquay	1.9	0.39	9	48	r
Buxton	-	0.40	5	41	r	Norwich	X	X	7	45	r
Cardiff	0.2	0.25	9	48	r	Nottingham	-	0.17	5	41	r
Clacton	-	0.19	8	46	r	Oxford	-	0.17	9	48	sh
Colwyn Bay	-	0.37	8	46	r	Penzance	3.3	0.43	X	X	gS
Cromer	1.3	0.11	6	43	r	Plymouth	X				
Doncaster	0.1	0.19	5	41	r	Poole	-	0.56	10	50	r
Edinburgh	3.0	0.05	5	41	sl	Prestatyn	X	0.32	8	46	r
Eskdalemuir	0.1	0.47	1	34	sn	Ross-o-wye	-	0.34	9	48	r
Exmouth	0.1	0.44	10	50	r	Sandown	-	1.40	10	50	g
Falmouth	X	0.50	11	52	gS	Saunton Snd	-	0.25	10	50	r
Fishguard	0.5	0.48	8	46	r	Scarboro'	2.1	0.13	5	41	r
Folkestone	-	0.45	8	46	r	Scilly Isles	4.4	0.41	11	52	sh
Glasgow	3.3	0.02	4	39	r	Shanklin	-	0.68	10	50	r
Guernsey	-	0.53	11	52	r	Shrewsbury	-	0.13	9	48	r
Hastings	-	0.56	9	48	r	Skegness	1.0	0.08	6	43	r
Hayling I	-	0.57	10	50	r	Southend	-	0.29	9	48	sl
Herne Bay	0.3	0.48	8	46	r	Southport	X				
Hove	-	0.74	10	50	r	Southsea	-	0.60	10	60	r
Hunstanton	1.1	0.08	7	45	r	Stornoway	X	X	5	41	s
Ilfracombe	X					Swanage	-	0.32	11	52	sh
Isle of Man	-	0.57	6	43	sl	Tenby	0.2	0.53	10	50	r
Jersey	-	0.59	10	50	r	Tiree	3.4	0.03	7	45	s
Kinloss	5.6	-	5	41	s	Torquay	0.1	1.18	11	62	r
Leeds	0.4	0.24	5	41	sl	Tynemouth	1.2	0.15	6	43	g
Lerwick	2.7	0.09	5	41	h	Ventnor	-	0.56	10	50	r
Leuchars	2.0	-	5	41	r	Weymouth	-	0.54	11	52	r
Littlehmptn	-	0.70	10	50	r						

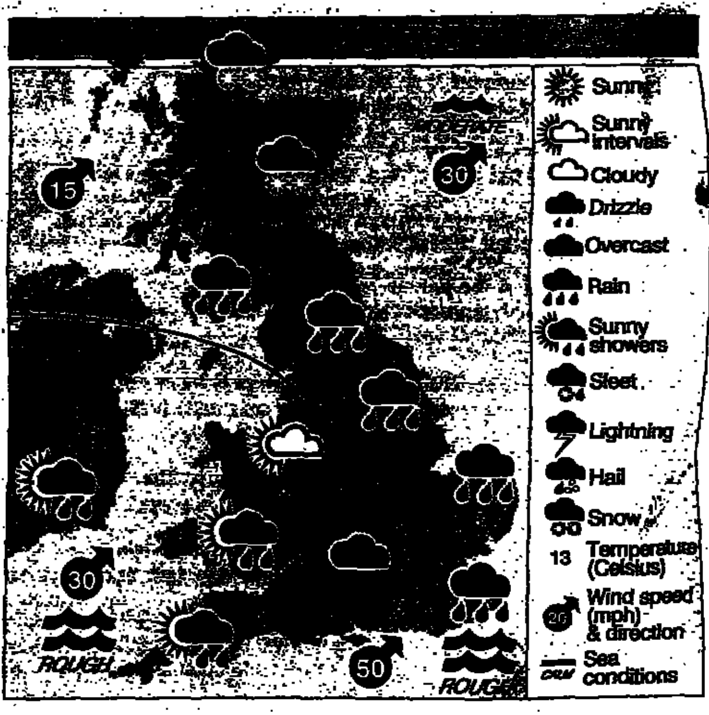
These are Thursday's figures

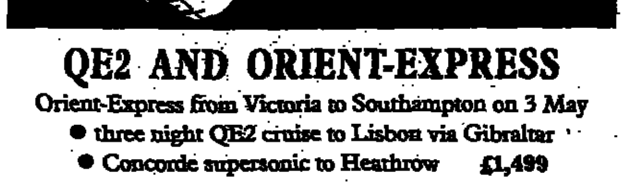
Ajaccio	14	57	f	Corfu	14	57	f	Majorca	16	61	f	Rome	12	54	s
Akrotiri	14	57	c	Dublin	3	37	s	Malaga	13	55	f	Salzburg	4	39	f
Alex'dria	16	61	f	Dubrovnik	12	54	s	Malta	16	61	s	S F'risco	8	46	f
Algiers	18	64	f	Faro	17	63	f	Melb'rne	23	73	r	Santiago	29	84	s
Amst'dm	9	48	f	Florence	7	45	s	Mexico C	17	63	c	S Paulo	30	86	t
Athens	10	50	c	Frankfurt	4	39	r	Miami	24	75	f	Seoul	3	37	s
Bahrain	20	68	s	Funchal	19	66	s	Milan	1	34	c	Sing'por	27	81	c
Bangkok	32	90	s	Geneva	7	45	c	Montreal	4	39	f	St'kholm	1	34	c
Barbados	29	84	f	Gibraltar	17	63	f	Moscow	-12	10	f	Strasb'rg	5	41	c
Barcelona	15	59	f	Helsinki	-4	25	s	Munich	1	34	s	Sydney	20	68	r
Beirut	14	57	f	Hong K	19	66	c	Nairobi	28	82	s	Tangier	17	63	c
Belgrade	-2	28	f	Innsbrck	0	32	c	Naples	14	57	s	Tel Aviv	13	55	c
Berlin	0	32	s	Istanbul	5	41	f	N Delhi	17	63	s	Tenerife	20	68	s
Biarritz	10	50	f	Jeddah	27	81	s	N York	4	39	d	Tokyo	10	50	s
Borde'x	8	46	f	Jo'burg	23	73	f	Nice	9	48	c	Toronto	4	39	c
Brussels	9	48	s	Karachi	26	79	s	Oslo	0	32	sn	Tunis	16	61	s
Budapest	-3	27	c	L Palmas	19	66	s	Paris	9	48	s	Valencia	13	55	f
B Aires	27	81	f	Le Touquet	8	46	f	Peking	1	34	f	Vanc'ver	6	43	s
Cairo	17	63	f	Lisbon	13	55	s	Perth	27	81	s	Venice	5	41	f
Cape Tn	28	82	s	Locarno	1	34	f	Prague	-2	28	c	Vienna	-4	25	sn
Chicago	2	36	sl	L Angels	15	59	s	Reykjavik	3	37	f	Warsaw	-7	19	s
Ch'church	18	64	c	Luxembg	6	43	r	Rhodes	13	55	r	Wash'ton	7	45	d
Cologne	9	48	f	Luxor	19	66	s	Rio de J	26	79	f	Well'ngton	20	68	s
C'phagn	1	34	r	Madrid	10	50	c	Riyadh	18	64	s	Zurich	5	41	f

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available



Changes to the chart above from noon: low A will deepen and move northeast towards Norway, while low S and low X merge and move east towards the Hebrides. High B will drift south and decline





QE2 AND ORIENT-EXPRESS

Orient-Express from Victoria to Southampton on 3 May
● three night QE2 cruise to Lisbon via Gibraltar
● Concorde supersonic to Heathrow £1,499

Concorde to Lisbon on 6 May ● four night VE Day cruise on QE2 to Southampton via Plymouth and Guernsey
● Orient-Express to Victoria £1,699

Orient-Express from Victoria to Southampton on 16 July
● eight night Land of the Midnight Sun cruise on QE2 via North Cape to Stavanger with the Norwegian Fjords
● Concorde supersonic to Heathrow £2,499

Orient-Express from Victoria to Southampton on 26 July
● five night QE2 cruise to New York ● nine night coach tour to Boston, Montreal, Ottawa and Niagara
● Concorde return from Toronto £2,999

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BA 747 from Heathrow to Toronto on 27 May or 3 Sept.
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● Niagara with helicopter ● Phantom of the Opera
● Concorde return to Heathrow £1,999

Toronto with Ryder Cup on 20 Sept. £2,699

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Concorde to St Petersburg on 14 July ● eight night Oriana cruise to Southampton via Helsinki, Visby (Sweden), Gdynia (Poland) and Hamburg
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THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

SATURDAY JANUARY 21 1995

HOWARD BARLOW

Peter Johnson, chairman of Park Foods, which has lifted its payout, with one of Park's food hampers, soon to be joined by a new type of potato chip

Rates pressure adds to mortgage gloom

BY ROBERT MILLER AND JANET BUSH

PRESSURE for an early interest rate rise intensified after figures showed growth in bank lending. Homeowners, who have already had to contend with news this week of a rise in mortgage repayments, were yesterday hit by a drop in mortgage lending, causing further misery to an already depressed housing market.

The Building Societies Association (BSA) announced that net new monthly mortgage advances fell from £1 billion to £623 million in December. Net new commitments, which indicate mortgage deals already approved, declined to £2.5 billion, from November's £3.2 billion.

Even allowing for seasonal factors, the December figures were disappointing. They also paint of picture of consumers building up a safety net: a net inflow of £694 million in retail funds was the largest since May 1993.

The gloomy news from building societies was tempered by bank figures suggesting that bank lending may finally be starting to show a healthier recovery and steady mortgage lending by banks.

On balance, the bank lending figures from the British Bankers' Association (BBA), which reported a monthly rise in December of £1.46 billion, against £1.22 billion, reinforced City speculation of higher interest rates next month.

Overall lending by banks and building societies — M4 lending — rose £3.9 billion in December, according to Bank of England figures. The City had been expecting a figure nearer to £3 billion.

Yesterday's bank lending figures served to intensify speculation that the authorities will decide to raise rates at the monetary meeting on February 2. The data followed last week's higher than expected producer and retail prices figures as well as a healthier than anticipated Christmas on the high street.

Don Smith, economist at HSBC Markets, said: "Overall, this data provides yet more evidence of stronger economic growth. The odds on a February rate hike seem to be increasing by the day."

Commenting on the healthy inflow of savers' money, Adrian Coles, Director-General of the BSA, said: "This is particularly unusual for December given the usual expenditure in the run-up to Christmas. Reduced withdrawals partly reflect the increased use of credit in December but is also indicative of the general lack of consumer confidence in the economy at present."

Homeowners can only brace themselves for further increases in the cost of their monthly mortgage payments. In April, mortgage interest tax relief will be cut from 20 to 15 per cent.

In the same month, the first of the Government's package of Budget measures to cut income support payments comes into effect. This will see the maximum loan on which state help is available fall from £125,000 to £100,000.

The BBA figures suggested that loan demand remains patchy. Mortage lending held up well, rising by £647 million, roughly the same as in November.

However, consumer borrowing rose by only £122 million, compared with November's £230 million, and most categories of manufacturing companies, far from borrowing, continued to repay debt.

Park Foods serves the fastest chips

PARK Food Group, best known until now for its Christmas hampers business, is set to begin production of a new, low-calorie potato chip that can be fried in 60 seconds (Martin Barrow writes). The company acquired the patent for the chip from a former employee of McCain who spent eight years developing it. A new factory at Birkenhead will open in June, and have an initial output of 22 tonnes a day for retailers and fast-food chains.

Park Foods yesterday announced an interim dividend up to 1p, from 0.833p, for the half-year to September 30. The interim loss of £4.99 million before tax, compared with £4.74 million previously, reflects the seasonal nature of the business.

BUSINESS TODAY

FT-SE 100	2995.0	(-33.6)
Yield	4.31%	
FT-SE A All share	1488.38	(-14.62)
Nikkei	18840.22	(-235.52)
New York:		
Dow Jones	3854.96	(-27.25)*
S&P Composite	464.63	(-2.32)*
Federal Funds	5[illegible]%*	(5[illegible]%)
Long Bond	95[illegible]*	(96[illegible])
Yield	7.86%*	(7.89%)
3-mth interbank	6[illegible]%	(6[illegible]%)
Liffe long gilt future (Mar)	101[illegible]	(101[illegible])
New York:		
$	1.5878*	(1.5860)
London:		
$	1.5875	(1.5735)
DM	2.3411	(2.3981)
FFr	8.3130	(8.3080)
SFr	2.0195	(2.0212)
Yen	157.80	(158.69)
£ Index	79.8	(79.5)
London:		
DM	1.5120*	(1.5150)
FFr	5.2985*	(5.2495)
SFr	1.2715*	(1.2752)
Yen	99.36*	(99.05)
$ Index	62.4	(62.9)

Tokyo close Yen 99.16

Brent 15-day (Apr)	$16.65	($16.60)
London close	$383.85	($382.75)

* denotes midday trading price

Shares fall

Growing concern in the Square Mile about the possibility of another rise in interest rates depressed investors and sent share prices tumbling below the important 3,000 support level. The FT-SE 100 index, down almost 40 points at one stage, eventually finished 33.6 down at 2,995.0. Markets, page 26

BAeSema wins £40m ship contract

BY MICHAEL EVANS AND ROSS TIEMAN

THE defence systems company BAeSema has won the prime contract to design and build a £40 million survey ship for the Royal Navy. Construction of the 130-metre vessel will be sub-contracted to Appledore Shipbuilders, at Bideford, Devon.

The award of the prime contract to BAeSema, a 50-50 joint venture between British Aerospace and Sema, the Anglo-French systems and software house, reflects a strategic shift in defence procurement policy.

BAeSema will assume responsibility for the ship from design to completion of sea trials. The company is likely to face stiff penalties if the vessel fails to perform to agreed specifications, or if the May 1997 delivery date is not met.

By transferring responsibility for the entire ship project to the private sector, the Ministry of Defence hopes to improve management, avoid delays, and escape any liability for cost over-runs.

BAeSema beat off a bid for the contract from VSEL, of Barrow-in-Furness, and Kvaerner Govan, on Clydeside. Last year, bidding in tandem, they secured a £200 million contract to build a helicopter assault ship.

The choice of BAeSema as prime contractor is good news for BAe. With annual sales of naval weapons and systems totalling £365 million, BAe has demonstrated its determination to build its naval business by bidding for VSEL. That bid, together with a rival offer from GEC, lapsed after the Monopolies and Mergers Commission launched an inquiry.

In spite of its lack of a shipyard, BAeSema appears well qualified for the task before it. Its YARD subsidiary (the former Yarrow Admiralty Research Department) has performed a similar role in merchant ship construction.

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Anne Ashworth on part-timers and pensions

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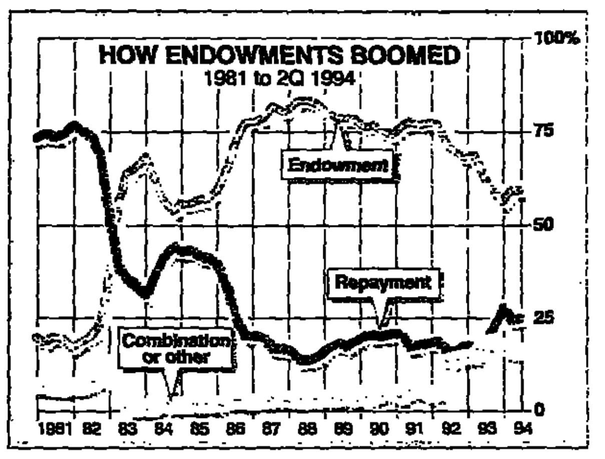
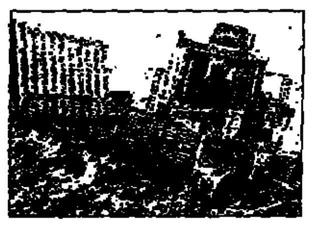
The latest endowment mortgage muddle





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EC proposal abolishes all currencies by 1999

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN BRUSSELS

THE European Commission yesterday produced an ambitious blueprint for European Monetary Union, which proposes the physical abolition of national currencies by July 1999 at the latest.

The report, compiled by a group of business and financial experts on behalf of the Commission, said that the delay between the beginning of the third and final stage of Emu and the physical introduction of the single currency should be minimised. Under the Maastricht timetable, the third stage of Emu, at which European currencies would be irrevocably fixed, can start in January 1997 at the earliest and in January 1999 at the latest. Under the opt-out arrangements negotiated at Maastricht, the transition to stage three in Britain will be subject to a vote in Parliament, and possibly a referendum.

Henning Christophersen, in his last appearance as European economics commissioner, presented the report as part of a concerted attempt by the Commission and the French presidency of the EU to highlight the technical preparations needed for the single currency.

Greville Janner in control of the hot seat

BY MELVYN MARCKUS, CITY EDITOR

BRITISH GAS is a client of JSB Training, a consultancy enterprise in which Greville Janner QC, MP holds a declared interest. Mr Janner, who chairs the Commons employment select committee, is scheduled to take evidence from Cedric Brown, chief executive of British Gas, on Tuesday.

A brochure from JSB, which specialises in teaching UK executives "presentational skills", lists British Gas among the firm's "in-company clients" under "energy, industrial and manufacturing". A description of JSB's "in-company training" states: "Greville Janner and his colleagues regularly conduct in-house Master Class training sessions for individuals and small groups including: presentational skills training..." *The Times* has not ascertained the full extent to which British Gas has availed itself of these services.

According to the brochure, Mr Janner's "blend of candid critique, incisive guidance, humour and discretion makes his training intensively interactive".

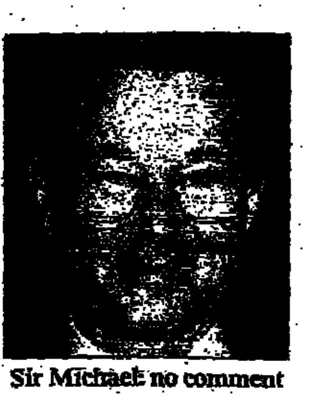
Melvyn Marckus, page 24

Jobs at risk as Porth calls in receiver

BY JON ASHWORTH

THE lights have finally fused at Porth Group, the maker of Christmas decorations where Sir Michael Edwardes, former head of Minorco and British Leyland, is non-executive chairman.

Receivers were appointed to the company yesterday, putting about 200 full-time jobs and more than 500 seasonal jobs at risk. Porth, based in Rhondda, mid-Glamorgan, said it had lost the support of its bankers. The failure to resolve long-term funding problems had left it no alternative but to call in the receivers. Chris Hughes, of Coopers & Lybrand, was appointed yesterday.



Sir Michael: no comment

Shares in the group were suspended at 2¾p before the announcement. They had stood at 261p in 1989. The company gave warning on January 10 that poor Christmas trading, coupled with high bank fees and interest charges, would give rise to a significant loss for the year.

Framemaker, one of Porth's three subsidiaries, was sold to managers on Thursday, protecting up to 60 jobs. Interest had also been expressed in Porth Decorative Products, the core business, and in Goodmark, a maker of industrial aerosol products.

The collapse is an embarrassment for Sir Michael, who has gathered a collection of non-executive posts since he presided over Minorco's £2.9 billion bid for Consolidated Gold Fields in 1989. He joined the board of Porth in 1991 and subsequently became a non-executive director of Hi-Tec Sports, the sports shoe designer and distributor. He is chairman of Charter, the mining group. Sir Michael was at his London office yesterday but declined to comment.

This is the second time Porth has passed into the hands of the receivers. The company fell on hard times in the early eighties, but was rescued by Neill Bell, a South African-born investor who took Porth to the stock market in 1989. He sold his shares in the company last October.

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Salaries and The Emperor's New Clothes

MELVYN
MARCKUS

◆

Let us start with "sleaze". What better way, after all, to address a Saturday morning. Sleaze, as we know, is a malaise peculiar to MPs. Members of all parties can fall victim to the ailment, although, for reasons yet to be fully ascertained, Conservative MPs appear to be the most vulnerable. The sleaze virus is complex and comprises a molecular structure which finds reflection in a variety of symptoms. One such symptom takes the form of "freeloading": a practice which proprietors of luxury hotels and airlines are particularly familiar with. Another symptom manifests itself by way of irresistible yearnings for payments of £1,000 as a prelude to the utterance of impassioned speeches, usually confined to the House. Equally common is a branch of Alzheimer's disease, which affects MPs' ability to recall, for the purpose of registration, the full extent of their private interests.

Doctors, journalists, lobbyists and the vast majority of the British public have been aware of the implications of the sleaze virus for at least 15 years but, out of kindness as much as anything, it was always kept a secret from John Major, our Prime Minister. Alas, rude events have impacted on this pleasant land. A Sunday newspaper, situated not a million miles from where I scribble, wrote stories about payments of £1,000 to certain MPs. Mohamed Al Fayed, proprietor of Harrods, joined forces with *The Guardian* and alleged that sleaze was rampant, not least among those MPs who had come into his ambit. The secret was out. A startled John Major, who could no longer be protected, called for action. Enter Lord Nolan to combat the epidemic. On Thursday, only days after he started a six week programme of laboratory tests, he let it be known that early evidence had helped to "clarify the issues". Lord Nolan pronounced that relations between MPs and commercial lobbying firms needed to be "tightened up". MPs, he stressed, must be given more guidance on which business activities were acceptable.

Wow. Three cheers for Lord Nolan. Here we have positive confirmation — of what those outside the vicinity of Westminster have known for years — within a matter of days. Nor should we forget Major's perspicacity. Thanks to his knee-jerk reaction to reality, a cure for the sleaze virus may be in sight.

Time to turn to another of Major's voyages of discovery: industrial pay. Throughout this Government's reign industrialists' salaries have made headlines. Certain recipients of large salaries, such as Lord Hanson, have been close to the Government, others, such as Tiny Rowland, less so. Many, including Sir Ralph Halpern, former chairman of Burton Group, have been ennobled.

Most UK residents have known, since time immemorial, that the chairmen, chief executives and directors of multinationals and blue chip corporations earn vastly more than the average employee.

But, once again, much as with the sleaze virus, it was thought best that the PM should be kept out of the picture.

Cabinet members and Downing Street officials, I have it on good authority, went to extraordinary lengths to prevent the PM from discovering that Peter Wood, the chief executive of Direct Line, was paid £24 million by Royal Bank of Scotland to buy out his contract.

This, and more, the PM was shielded from. He knew nothing of the £1 million plus remuneration packages enjoyed by Sir Geoffrey Mulcahy, chairman of Kingfisher, or Sir Alistair Grant, chairman of Argyll. But, slowly but surely, information filtered into No 10. To Major's amazement he discovered that the chiefs of recently privatised electricity companies were not only enjoying spiralling salaries but also lucrative share option schemes which just happened to benefit from a rising "after-market", carefully allowed for by his former colleagues at the Treasury. He was also informed that Cedric Brown, chief executive of British Gas, was set to receive a 75 per cent salary increase to £475,000. Imagine his astonishment, as the scales fell from his eyes, and, blinded by sunlight, he learned that the chief executive of a £13 billion company, which competes with combines such as Exxon and Shell, should earn £475,000. The scene at Downing Street was, by all accounts, reminiscent of *The Emperor's New Clothes*. Neither Cabinet members nor aides dared to inform the PM that about 50 of the FT-SE 100 companies paid their senior directors *more* than £475,000 per annum. Nor, in the light of Major's new found appreciation of a populist issue, did anyone point out that the real increase amounted to 28 per cent.

Major, so it is said, had to be restrained from calling in a law lord to look at industrialists' salaries. It was Michael Portillo, the Employment Secretary, who declared, publicly, that controlling industrialists' pay is not a matter for the Government. Thankfully, a City task force, led by Sir Richard Greenbury, chairman of Marks and Spencer, was swiftly set up. Sir Richard earns the thick end of £780,000. Other industrialists who will bring their perspective to bear include Sir Michael Angus. As a former chairman of Unilever, Sir Michael's salary in 1991 was £688,000. Since retirement, he has supplemented his pension with £154,000 as chairman of Whitbread. He is also a non-executive director of British Airways, the NatWest and Boots. Needless to say, nobody has told the PM about incomes on this scale.

Incidentally, Tuesday heralds the razzmatazz normally associated with a curtain rise on the Commons Employment Select Committee, chaired by Labour MP Greville Janner. Bound to the stake will be James Smith, chairman of Eastern Electricity (£242,000 per annum), Sir Desmond Pitcher, chairman of North West Water (recipient of a 42 per cent rise to £338,000) and, of course, Brown from British Gas.

Bearing in mind that British Gas's capitalisation is four times that of Eastern and North West combined, it is far from clear why each of this trio should not receive a separate inquisition. Interesting to note Janner's declared interest in JSB Group, which specialises in teaching "presentation skills" to UK executives. Equally interesting to note, in a recent JSB brochure, that British Gas is referred to as an "In-company client."

CU sees difficult year ahead

By Robert Miller

COMMERCIAL Union, one of the UK's biggest composite insurance companies, yesterday predicted that 1995 will be another difficult year for the sale of life and pensions products.

Robbie Graham, group chief actuary at Commercial Union, said: "The poor publicity about personal pensions and peoples' concerns about pension products generally will make 1995 another difficult year. But longer term we feel that consumers understand the need to provide for their retirement."

Total new single premium life and pensions business in the UK in 1994 fell from £295.3 million to £250.1 million. Total annual premium life and pensions business was down by 15 per cent to £53.8 million. Worldwide business rose to £1.5 billion compared with £1.1 billion in 1993, boosted by the £438.6 million contribution in the fourth quarter from Groupe Victoire.

☐ Allied Dunbar, Britain's largest unit-linked life and pensions company, announced yesterday that it has "countered" the market trend with a small increase in its protection and pensions business. Regular premium business grew last year by 2 per cent to £161.3 million. Total premium income was up by 4 per cent to £1.8 billion.

Exchange moderates curbs on short selling

By Patricia Tehan, banking correspondent

THE Stock Exchange has scaled back its plans to restrict severely the short selling of securities before a secondary offer, despite concerns that such practices are used to manipulate the market.

However, in a letter to members sent out yesterday, Keith Robinson, secretary to the Exchange's board, said that a rule will come in next week to improve transparency of dealings during a secondary offer by forcing large share sales to be settled in five days, instead of the current ten-day settlement. The Exchange will specify the value of "large" deals next week.

The new rule and a new "short selling disclosure" trial co-ordinated by the Securities and Investments Board are being brought in to coincide with the start of the Government's £4 billion sale of a second tranche of shares in National Power and PowerGen, the electricity generating companies. The pathfinder prospectus is due on January 30.

The Exchange's move is part of a coordinated effort by City regulators, announced yesterday, to improve disclosure of short selling after complaints that it had been used to force down share prices before secondary share sales. Short sellers sell shares that they do not own with the aim of buying them back more cheaply.

Under the SIB trial the Exchange, the Securities and Futures Authority and Liffe will compile data to disclose the aggregate "pent-up" demand for securities on a daily basis during a secondary offer. It starts on January 30, and the SIB will review the impact of the new arrangements after the offers close.

In his letter, Mr Robinson said that these two measures are in addition to the share vendor's control of its allocation policy. The vendor's ability "to take steps to mitigate the effects of short selling" is unchanged.

Kleinwort Benson and BZW, the lead advisers to the sale of National Power and PowerGen, have said they will penalise those found to have sold shares heavily in the run up to the sale.

The Government's second and third BT share sales, and the Wellcome, Eurotunnel and EuroDisney share sales, have been given as examples of market manipulation, although the Exchange acknowledges that there is no evidence of that being the case.

The Exchange has ruled out banning the covering of a short position with shares bought in a secondary share sale. It has also rejected the idea, floated by S.G. Warburg during BT3, of cash settlement during a secondary offer.

Mr Robinson said the Exchange is considering a rule which would require members to distinguish between short sales and ordinary share sales when reporting trades.

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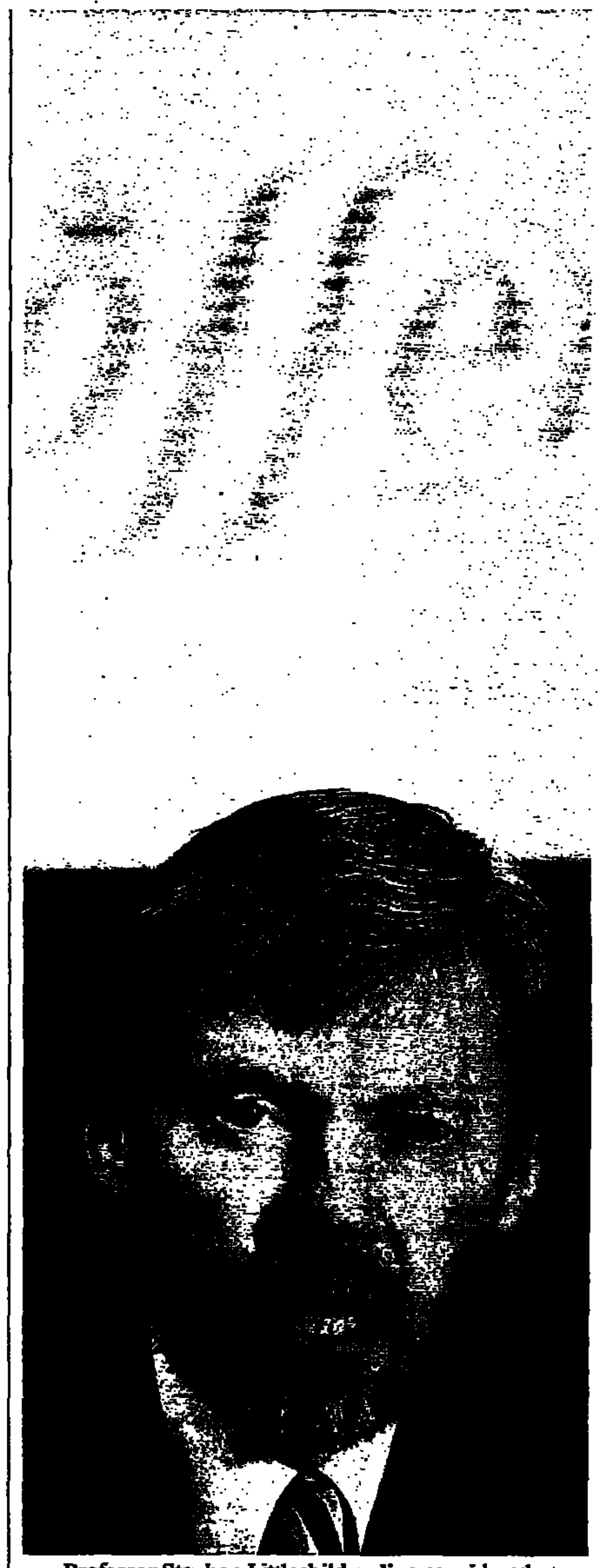

Professor Stephen Littlechild: ruling considered broadly neutral for the 12 regional companies

Electricity companies cleared for battle

By Martin Waller
Deputy City Editor

PROFESSOR Stephen Littlechild, the industry regulator for electricity, has told the 12 regional electricity companies in England and Wales that he has no objection in principle to their increasing their involvement in power generation and taking on the two biggest operators, National Power and PowerGen.

But Professor Littlechild has stopped a long way short of freeing up the generation market entirely to the 12, which have a virtual monopoly on electricity supply and distribution within their individual regions.

Instead he said it would be "reasonable to consider" any requests from the companies to raise their generation capacity from the present limit, which restricts them to 15 per cent of their own requirements. In addition he has said he would impose conditions on the degree to which a regional company's extra generation capability could be used to supply its core near-monopoly.

The ruling from the Office of Electricity Generation, which comes after Professor Littlechild sought the views of the industry and other interested parties, was seen as broadly neutral for the generators ahead of the sale next month of the government's remaining 40 per cent shareholding. The two are not considered likely to face a wave of competition from the rest of the electricity industry.

☐ Eastern Group and London Electricity, the regional electricity distribution companies, continued their share buy-back operations yesterday. Eastern bought some 7.7 million of its own shares, about 3 per cent, at 720p at a cost of about £55 million.

London Electricity repurchased a further 6.55 million of its shares at 705p, completing the company's share buy-back programme.

Airports group freezes rents

BAA is freezing rents in its airport terminals and is planning to provide an extra 1.5 million sq ft of new space for tenants in the next three years. The airports group, one of the UK's largest commercial landlords, said it was pegging rents to 1993 levels with a guarantee of no increases until March 1996.

The main beneficiaries will be airlines, handling agents, customs and immigration, the police and cargo companies. Rents for shops, restaurants and other retail space will not be affected since these pay rent in proportion to their turnover. BAA, which owns Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted, Southampton, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen airports, said that some rents in the central terminal area in Heathrow would be cut immediately.

Last year 86.8 million passengers passed through BAA airports, 7.4 per cent up on 1993. Half-year pre-tax profits to September totalled £265 million, up 11.8 per cent on the same period in 1993.

Air war discounted

DAIMLER-BENZ AEROSPACE is seeking to play down suggestions by Wolfgang Piller, the Dasa development director, that it is heading for a showdown with British Aerospace and Aérospatiale over their plans to link up in the regional aircraft market. In unscripted remarks, he told French reporters that the venture between BAe, Aérospatiale and Alenia would "pollute" Dasa's relations with its Airbus partners. However, a Dasa spokesman in Munich insisted that Herr Piller "did not have all of the facts". He said: "We are not alarmed at all. We think it is the right move."

Athena outlets sold

A CONSORTIUM of 14 franchise holders is to buy more than half the franchise outlets of Athena Holdings, the former Pentos subsidiary that went into receivership. The 127 directly managed shops ceased trading this month, but all but one of 30 franchised shops stayed open. The consortium is paying an undisclosed sum for the rights to the Athena name and certain trademarks. Its members have bought themselves out of their franchise agreements with Athena Holdings. The 13 shops not part of the deal will be allowed to use the Athena name while they abide by their own franchise agreements.

USAir delays results

USAIR GROUP, the troubled airline that is 25 per cent owned by British Airways, has delayed publication of its year-end results by one week until January 27 to allow for "regular accounting procedure", according to a BA spokesman yesterday. The results, expected to show losses of as much as $600 million, had been expected yesterday. USAir reported a net loss of about $363 million for the first nine months. The airline, which was one of the first to restructure in the face of heavy losses across the industry in the early 1990s, has been struggling through a fresh round of cost cutting.

Rank raises offer

A KERSHAW & SONS, an investment holding company, is asking minority shareholders to approve a bid from Rank Organisation for the 14 per cent of the equity the leisure group does not already own after Rank raised the bid by 50p a share. The recommendation follows Rank's sale of 40 per cent of its remaining stake in Rank Xerox. Rank is offering £58 million for the outstanding shares in Kershaw. The terms are now £12 in cash for every Kershaw share, or minority shareholders can take Rank equity.

Ernie wins again

PREMIUM BONDS once again proved to be a best-seller for National Savings in December. At £87 million, net sales of Premium Bonds were down from November's higher-than-average £130 million but still well-ahead of Savings Certificates, which contributed £55 million to an overall net NS contribution of £146 million for the month. By the end of the year NS had contributed £2.9 billion towards the Government funding target in the present financial year of about £3.5 billion.

Cuckney quits Maxwell Pensioners Trust chair

By Robert Miller

SIR JOHN CUCKNEY, former head of MI5, is to stand down as chairman of the Maxwell Pensioners Trust (MPT).

Sir John will be replaced with immediate effect by Jane Newell, a founder trustee of the MPT who is chairman of the Recruitment and Assessment Service, an executive agency of the Cabinet Office. She is also a director of the Glaxo Trustee companies.

The MPT was founded in June 1992, together with the Maxwell Pensioners Unit, by the Department of Social Security, as part of a package of measures to secure the long-term future of pensioners belonging to pension funds plundered by the late Robert Maxwell. The MPT's primary role is to achieve a global settlement to disputes relating to the recovery of missing pension fund assets, as an alternative to expensive litigation in the courts.

An attempt to achieve a £300 million global settlement with a number of city institutions under the direction of Sir Peter Webster, the former High Court judge, foundered in December. The trustees of the four main Maxwell funds had hoped to secure £400 million. This would have filled the void in the pension funds and repaid the Government.

Sir John, who will remain as an adviser on the Maxwell affair to Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, will pick up from Sir Peter's work in trying to achieve large settlements with a number of individual parties.

It is understood that Sir John, whose role at the MPT is an unpaid one, has decided to stand aside because he has more chance of securing a more financially secure future for Maxwell pensioners by pursuing an independent role.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.17	2.00
Austria Sch	18.03	16.53
Belgium Fr	52.78	48.46
Canada $	2.357	2.197
Cyprus Cyp£	0.780	0.725
Denmark Kr	10.08	9.28
Finland Mkk	8.01	7.36
France Fr	8.75	8.10
Germany Dm	2.58	2.35
Greece Dr	387.00	372.00
Hong Kong $	12.89	11.89
Ireland Pt	1.06	0.98
Italy Lira	2835.00	2480.00
Japan Yen	171.00	155.00
Malta	0.623	0.568
Netherlds Gld	2.840	2.610
Norway Kr	11.10	10.30
Portugal Esc	260.50	242.00
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.35
Spain Pta	217.00	203.00
Sweden Kr	12.39	11.59
Switzerland Fr	2.15	1.97
Turkey Lira	refer	61560.0
USA $	1.680	1.550

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

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Jobs go in HSBC revamp

HSBC Holdings, the parent of Midland Bank, is reorganising its American operations after the formation of a trade bank with Wells Fargo (*Patricia Tehan writes*).

In New York, HSBC's six HongkongBank branches are being transferred to its Marine Midland subsidiary. A spokeswoman said the move will cut out duplication. She said there would be some reductions in staffing levels, through natural wastage.

The new California Wells Fargo HSBC Trade Bank will be capitalised with $50 million, of which $30 million will come from Wells Fargo and the rest from HSBC. It will provide trade finance and international banking services. HSBC's two Hongkong-Bank branches in California have been transferred to the new bank. The new trade bank is scheduled to begin operation in the second quarter of this year.

Tempus, page 26

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NATIONAL HOME LOANS: Jonathan Perry and Nigel Terrington

Financial paramedics revive a terminal case

Neil Bennett talks to the team who have spent three gruelling years pulling a mortgage business round

Among the fraternity of company doctors, Jonathan Perry and Nigel Terrington rate as open heart surgeons. In the past three years they have brought National Home Loans, the centralised mortgage lender, back from the dead. In 1992, no one, least of all NHL's bankers and shareholders, would give decent odds on the company's survival. Undaunted, the pair have spent the past three years cajoling and battling against the bankers and investors who dictated the company's survival. They have radically reduced NHL's borrowings, attacked its mountainous bad debts, and last summer managed to reopen for new business after a three-year absence.

This week, Perry and Terrington launched a £50 million rights issue and a share capital reorganisation that should complete the company's long convalescence and allow it to concentrate once more on the business of selling mortgages.

The real miracle is that they were ever on the scene to take part in NHL's rescue. Perry, a lifelong merchant banker, was sucked into the affair at an age when many people are looking forward to a quieter life in the Home Counties. Terrington, who started out in NHL as its treasurer, was almost poached to a more lucrative job. It was only Perry's intervention that stopped him walking out.

The two met in 1991, when NHL was falling apart rapidly. Founded in 1985, it was one of a new breed of mortgage lender, selling through intermediaries. Its lending book grew astonishingly quickly through the housing boom, reaching £3.7 billion in four years. The company's management then diversified into consumer and corporate lending just before the recession struck.

The result was disastrous. In 1991, NHL's commercial lending subsidiary was swept up in the liquidity crisis that hit the secondary banking market after the closure of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International. The Bank of England intervened to ensure that the bank had a standby lending facility. Meanwhile, the group's core mortgage business was deteriorating at an astonishing pace as more and more customers defaulted on their heavy interest payments.

It was at this point that Perry joined as a non-executive director. He had been a director of Morgan Grenfell until 1988, when he left after a personality clash with John Craven, the chairman he helped to recruit. After a spell working for himself and then as chairman of a financial public relations company, he was looking for other things to do. "I missed the people factor of business which I have always enjoyed," he says.

NHL's business continued to unravel until the start of 1992, when the company's banks asked Perry to take charge. He arrived on February 21, in the wake of the departure of the previous chairman and chief executive, and was immediately embroiled in a crisis that threatened to finish the company off. NHL was due to break its lending covenants at the end of the month, and Perry had one week to persuade all the company's 59 banks to grant it a 90-day waiver to allow time for a refinancing. It was not easy. "I told my wife I would be chairman for one week. There was a serious risk of that."

> ❛I told my wife I would be chairman for one week. There was a serious risk of that❜

In the next seven days Perry and Terrington worked round the clock to gain the banks' support. Many wanted to cut their losses and quit, but the Bank of England helped to persuade the most unwilling. "There was a lot of leaning on people. They were dragged out of the bath and off planes to agree."

Perry then had a relatively relaxed 90 days to agree the terms of a refinancing. The banks insisted on sending in Ernst & Young as reporting accountants, the sort of process that normally reads the last rites over a company. They returned with some grim details. Over a third of NHL's book was in arrears, and the company was collecting only 62 per cent of the payments due on the bad loans. Ernst & Young estimated that if the banks called in the receivers they would get only 65 per cent of their money back and there would be nothing for the bondholders or shareholders. As a result the banks decided to back Perry's attempt to allow the company to trade its way out of trouble, and signed a complex loan agreement within half the allotted 90 days.

After that, NHL's remaining executives began a vigorous initiative to improve the company's finances. The arrears were handled by a new collections department. This work forced the company to make heavy provisions which expanded losses between 1991 and 1993 to £238 million and wiped out the group's capital. NHL was also forced to cut its staff from 650 to fewer than 400 today.

Throughout it all, Perry remained astonishingly cheerful. As each set of appalling figures was published, he would calmly tell the banks and shareholders how the company proposed to stay in business and return to normality.

"There was really good support in the company and it used to be commented on by the banks," says Terrington. "They would say 'you guys are really fighting, you really want to keep this'."

Perry has the build to succeed. His heavy frame topped with a shock of white hair looks as though it could bulldoze its way through anything, certainly through a roomful of bankers, even though his face has often been tinged with grey fatigue after all-night drafting sessions.

Although Perry was the architect of NHL's survival, he could never have accomplished it without Terrington, and he realised that immediately. When he arrived, Terrington was NHL's treasurer and the company's lifeline to a source of safe finance — the capital markets. In the years when NHL's management had been manically piling the group's balance sheet with assets, Terrington, an experienced corporate banker, had been busy trying to keep them down by securitising them and selling them to institutional investors. Even before Perry arrived he was used to sleeping the night on the office sofa.

When he was signing the 90-day waiver with the banks, Perry realised he could not afford to lose Terrington, who was on the point of accepting another job.

As the bankers gathered at JP Morgan to sign the waiver, Perry suddenly ushered Terrington into another room. "I said I was not going to sign this unless he agreed to spend a minimum of another 90 days with the company," says Perry.

"I had been offered a job that would have taken me out of this country, out of this world. It seemed perfect," says Terrington. "Suddenly I saw all those bankers out there and I felt a degree of loyalty towards them and the company and Jon seemed like a guy I could get on with. If it had been anyone else, I'm not sure."

Soon after, Terrington was promoted to finance director and in the past two years has securitised £511 million of the company's assets, allowing the current refinancing to go ahead. Perry and Terrington make unusual partners, but the pressures of the NHL rescue have been too intense for the differences to cause any strife between them.

Perry is the quintessential extrovert who describes himself as "a scrapper" and "a professional schoolboy". Terrington is the quiet banker, with an awesome command of the company's numbers. "Jon is very strong and demonstrative. I will stop, sit and listen and calm him down when he needs it," says Terrington.

Their battles are not over yet. Already a wayward preference shareholder is trying to block the refinancing, on which the company's future prosperity rests. Perry and Terrington face three more weeks of lobbying shareholders to back their proposals. But after all they have gone through, they look more than capable of vaulting this last vital hurdle.

DES JENSON

Nigel Terrington, left, and Jonathan Perry, the quiet banker and the extrovert who have found the pressure of work too intense for their differences to matter

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Putting London on the map for company relocation

Jon Ashworth hears about the joys of the capital as an international business base

Executives in Tokyo or Los Angeles puzzling over where to locate their European headquarters might as well stick a pin in the map and hope for the best. London, Paris, Frankfurt and Brussels have all developed slick PR machines designed to entice international investors, but in London, it seems, the machine has not been slick enough for everyone's liking.

Enter the London First Centre, a new promotional body headed by Sir Colin Marshall, of British Airways, which hopes to tip the balance in London's favour. Its early efforts have not been without success.

The London First Centre is part of a wider drive by British business to keep the capital in the frame. Lord Sheppard of Didgemere, chairman of Grand Metropolitan, heads an umbrella body called London First, which has two main arms — the London First Centre, aimed at attracting inward investment to London, and the London Tourist Board, under Sir John Egan.

The centre has attracted an impressive list of supporters. Directors include Sir Brian Jenkins, of Coopers & Lybrand, Yve Newbold, company secretary of Hanson, and even the ubiquitous Maurice Saatchi. Business sponsors range from Clifford Chance to James Capel.

Day-to-day running is in the hands of Honor Chapman, chief executive, who was seconded from Jones Lang Wootton to get the project off the ground. She already claims to have helped to persuade Samsung, the Korean industrial group, to relocate its European headquarters from Frankfurt to London.

"People are coming here primarily to gain access to an enormous market," she says, rattling off the statistics. "London and the South East represent the biggest labour pool in Europe. Some 40 per cent of the European Union's GDP is within a freight day's travel of London. There is greater access to richer people in Europe than any city other than Brussels."

Fine, but why then do so many foreigners choose Paris or Frankfurt instead? "The perception has been of London as a small city off the edge," she concedes. "But London is an international airline hub, offering 30 per cent more worldwide destinations than Paris — 135 cities compared with 98. The cost of international travel from London is substantially less than competitor cities. Telecommunications costs are 50 per cent cheaper for the average multinational company."

For all that, London still has a fight on its hands. It ranks only seventh in Europe in terms of quality of life for employees, according to a study by Healey & Baker. Top for lifestyle is Paris, followed by Geneva, Zurich and Barcelona. London comes out even worse for pollution, taking 17th place, well behind squeaky-clean Geneva, Stockholm and Oslo.

Turn to more functional criteria, and London comes out with flying colours. It is ranked first for access to markets, external transport links, quality of telecommunications, cost and availability of staff, and value and availability of office space (although there are signs that good premises are growing harder to find). The main threat comes from Paris, which has a better internal transport system and is generally ranked second to London on all criteria except cost and availability of staff, where it comes in 11th. London is top overall, ahead of Paris, Frankfurt, Brussels, Amsterdam and Zurich.

Mrs Chapman and her team intend to keep beating the drum. Representatives have been dispatched to America and the Far East. Exploratory trips are planned to South America, South Africa and India. There is a hit-list of international companies based elsewhere in Europe that might be persuaded to move.

Next month, the centre is opening a business bureau — a sort of walk-in showroom for visitors — near its offices in Hobhouse Court, near Trafalgar Square. The chief attraction is a panoramic photograph of London without a cloud or traffic jam to be seen. Investors will suspect that there is more to London than a glossy picture.

Honor Chapman, chief executive of the London First Centre, which is opening a showroom next month

THE SUNDAY TIMES
Derailing the gravy train
❛This has the potential to undermine the capitalist system," warns the IoD's Tim Melville-Ross. "We have to recognise that we have a very serious problem on our hands . . .❜
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STOCK MARKET **MICHAEL CLARK**

Index falls 33 points on interest rate rise fears

Shares in CU, headed by John Carter, fell 6p

SHARE prices dropped below the important 3,000 support level as the pressure for a rise in interest rates intensified. Traders have watched with interest for the best part of a week as the bears continued to test the market's resilience, but it wasn't until yesterday that share prices finally succumbed. The FT-SE 100 index, down almost 40-points at one stage, ended the session 33.6 lower at 2,995.0, stretching the fall on the week to 53.3.

A sharp fall for the Dow Jones overnight on Wall Street and setbacks in both Hong Kong and Tokyo set the scene for an early mark-down of both equities and bond prices in London. Institutional investors are now convinced that a rise in interest rates on both sides of the Atlantic is inevitable. The US Federal Open Market Committee is due to meet on January 31 and is expected to signal a further rise in prime rates. The Bank of England is likely to follow its lead. Economic numbers either side of the pond have indicated that the British and US economies are still growing too fast. Traders hope the move towards dearer money will be implemented quickly in order to dispel the current uncertainty. Turnover levels yesterday remained low and by the close of business a mere 550 million shares had been traded, hardly justifying a fall of more than 30 points.

Speculative buying continued to drag **Wellcome** higher, with the price adding 5p at 689p in a falling market. Once again there was heavy turnover with more than 4 million shares changing hands. **Glaxo** is seen as the most likely bidder. Dealers say the group is looking to deal a big deal and Wellcome may fit the bill.

There were number of significant deals in the pharmaceutical industry last year as companies began looking to increase their portfolios of best-selling drugs with acquisitions, while seeking joint ventures designed to reduce development costs. Glaxo finished 20p lower at 642p as brokers took the view the company may be close to making a move.

Takeover favourite **SG Warburg** finished 14p off at 731p as the profit takers moved in ahead of the weekend break. This week has seen a revival in takeover speculation at Warburg, just weeks after it broke off merger talks with Morgan Stanley. This time the talk is that the new suitor may be Deutsche Bank of JP Morgan, the New York investment bank. The proposed £5 billion merger between Warburg and Morgan Stanley broke down because the former's separately quoted investment arm, Mercury Asset Management, demanded better terms. Even if a bidder fails to emerge, it seems increasingly likely that Warburg will sell off part of its holding in **MAM**, down 19p at 749p. The sale of just 10 per cent of MAM would raise an estimated £364 million. Elsewhere in the banking sector there were losses for **Standard Chartered**, 8p to 255p, and **HSBC**, 18p to 625p on the back of the overnight fall in Hong Kong for the Hang Seng Index.

Unigate suffered a reversal of fortunes as the price dropped 6p to 353p. Earlier in the week the shares had responded positively to reports that the group was close to striking a deal to sell its 32 per cent stake in the Dutch baby food group, Nutricia, to Sandoz, the Swiss pharmaceutical giant. Reports yesterday emphasised that Nutricia's intention was to stay independent. Without raising extra funds, there is little prospect of Unigate completing any major acquisitions. There has been talk that it might bid for either **Hazlewood Foods**, down 2p at 107p, or Dairy Crest.

Shares of **A. Kershaw** surged 47p to £13.00 after agreeing terms for **Rank Organisation** to mop up the remaining 13.8 per cent of the shares it doesn't already own as part of the Rank Xerox stake disposal. Rank is offering £12.00 a share, valuing the entire company at £417 million. Kershaw also intends to pay a dividend of 120p a share. Rank lost 4p at 386p.

There was little cheer for shareholders of **PWS Holdings**, the Lloyds insurance broker, after it announced it had plunged into the red last year and had cut the dividend to a nominal 0.1p. The shares dropped 4p to 25p after a loss of £1.1 million was revealed, compared with a profit the previous year of £2.4 million. The figure was struck after charges of £2.2 million relating to the closure of certain activities and reorganisation. The figures were also accompanied by a boardroom reshuffle which saw Peter Smith become managing director and Lord Pearson, chairman, give up his executive duties.

Commercial Union fell 6p to 497p despite reporting a 36 per cent increase in new life business and pension premiums during 1994. The group attributed the improved performance to its European life operations and benefits of the Groupe Victoire acquisition.

Credit Lyonnais Laing, the broker, has turned cautious of CU, worried about Groupe Victoire's exposure to the depressed French property market.

News of a 57 per cent surge in new life business to £33.6 million at **United Friendly** also failed to benefit the share price, which ended the session 7p cheaper at 473p. This was largely due to a fall f 19 per cent in single premiums to £42.8 million.

☐ **GILT-EDGED**: Gilts were dragged lower in early trading by renewed dollar weakness and overnight losses among US Treasury Bonds. A few cheap buyers managed to turn the tide, enabling prices to close above their worst levels in late trading.

In the futures pit, the March series of the Long Gilt touched £100 13/16 before finishing £3/16 easier at £101⅛ as a total of 47,000 contracts were completed. At the longer end of the conventional market, Treasury 8 per cent 2013 also dipped £3/16 to £93 31/32, while in shorts Treasury 8 per cent 2000 held steady at £97 9/32.

☐ **NEW YORK**: Shares on Wall Street slid on disappointing corporate news and fears of a rise in interest rates. The Dow Jones industrial average was 27.25 points lower by midday at 3,854.96.

Vodafone fell 4p to 187½p as Hoare Govett downgraded its recommendation from a buy to a hold. Other brokers are becoming increasingly worried about growing competition from Hutchison Whampoa's Orange network, and say the boom seen in new phone connections during Christmas is over.

MOVERS OF THE WEEK

	Current price	Week's change	
Capital Radio	375p	+16p	Speculative buying
Tadpole Technology	234p	-100p	Increased losses
Berisford International	269p	+41p	Return from suspension
SG Warburg	731p	+58p	Revived speculative buying
A Beckman	45p	+7p	Stake changes hands
Kingfisher	399p	-29p	Profits warning
Blenheim Exhibitions	193p	-48p	Profits warning
Wellcome	688p	+24p	Bid talk
PWS Holdings	25p	-4½p	News of losses

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):	
Dow Jones	3854.96 (-27.25)
S&P Composite	464.63 (-2.32)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	18840.22 (-235.52)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	7278.10 (-143.90)
Amsterdam:	
EOE Index	410.76 (-2.75)
Sydney:	
AO	1878.4 (-16.0)
Frankfurt:	
DAX	2055.58 (-33.78)
Singapore:	
Straits	2028.61 (-52.72)
Brussels:	
General	7109.20 (-46.01)
Paris:	
CAC-40	1813.33 (-25.78)
Zurich:	
SKA Gen	638.60 (-2.80)
London:	
FT 30	2280.9 (-29.0)
FT 100	2995.0 (-33.6)
FT-SE Mid 250	3424.6 (-24.7)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1313.82 (-10.02)
FT A All-Share	1488.38 (-14.62)
FT Non Financials	1618.04 (-14.33)
FT Gold Mines	210.1 (-3.4)
FT Fixed Interest	109.29 (-0.01)
FT Govt Secs	90.83 (+0.03)
Bargains	18864
SEAQ Volume	550.2m
USM (Datastrm)	146.94 (-0.35)
US$	1.5902 (+0.0204)
German Mark	2.3991 (-0.0039)
Exchange Index	79.8 (+00.3)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.2648
£:SDR	1.0719
RPI	146.0 Dec (2.9%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Asset Mngmnt Inv (100)	99	...
Caledonian Media Wts	6½	...
Clydeport	162	-5
First Russ Front ($10)	585	...
Gart Micro Index (500)	510	-1
Hill Hire	103	+1
Kiln Capital (100)	100	...
Lazard Birla Ida	52½	+1
Lazard Birla Ida Wts	31¼	-½
MCIT S Cap (35)	35	...
MCIT S Inc (35)	36	...
MICE Group (3)	3¼	...
Mthsn Lloyds Inv (100)	82	...
Pentex Oil	105	...
TeleWest Coms (182)	177½	-3½
Wellington Under (100)	102	...
Woodchester Units	125	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Dares Estates n/p (4)	1½	...
Hewitt n/p (68)	23	...
Verity n/p (7½)	¼	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Domino	564p (+8p)
Scotia	314p (+6p)
Vickers	177p (+5p)
Treatt	234p (+6p)
Barbour Index	182p (+15p)
Ramco Energy	268p (+26p)
Woodside	240p (+6p)
FALLS:	
British Airways	359p (-10p)
Barclays	570p (-10p)
HSBC	625p (-18p)
Smiths Ind	464p (-10p)
TI	343p (-11p)
GKN	564p (-17p)
Com Union	493p (-10p)
Bluebird Toys	218p (-9p)
Thomson Corp	735p (-10p)
Burmah Castrol	832p (-12p)
MAM	749p (-19p)
Rowlinson Secs	140p (-15p)
Thorntons	154p (-7p)
GUS	524p (-9p)
Essex Furn	138p (-8p)
C Salvesen	275p (-6p)

Closing Prices Page 37

TEMPUS

Shipping business

THE success of British Aerospace in winning the £40 million contract to build a Royal Navy survey vessel has strong implications for the group's suspended bid for VSEL. On one hand it shows that the group is trusted by the Ministry of Defence to operate as a naval contractor on a tricky contract. On the other, it asks the question why BAe needs to buy VSEL's shipyard at all, when it can subcontract the heavy business cheaply and effectively.

The pros undoubtedly outweigh the cons. The MoD's decision to award the contract to BAeSema is an effective admission that the electronic gizmos that fill the modern ship are more important than the hulls that surround them. Admittedly, a £40 million contract for a 130-metre survey ship is not in the same league as a £120 million order for a fully equipped frigate, but it is a vital opportunity for BAe and Sema to show how they can operate as a prime contractor.

Such a vote of confidence from the MoD is likely to be noticed by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission as they debate BAe's and GEC's competing offers for VSEL.

The MMC report is not due until March, and the Department of Trade is unlikely to publish its finding rapidly, given the sensitivity of the affair. But yesterday's contract success is good news for BAe, even if GEC's offer is waved through. It shows that it can still win naval orders even without a shipyard at its disposal. IF GEC gains a grip on the naval contracting business by buying VSEL, BAe can always team up with Kvaerner Govan to mount a credible alternative to it on future contracts.

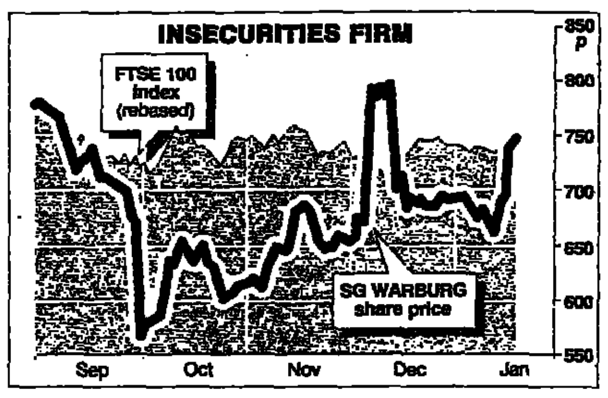
SG Warburg

WHEN *Tempus* made SG Warburg one of its tips of 1995 at the beginning of the month, it did not expect that the bank would be back in the action so quickly. In a few weeks Warburg has closed down its Eurobond business, which should benefit the bottom line by £40 million in cost savings and eradicated losses, and been battered by a succession of rumours and counter rumours about its future.

Any of the stories that have rippled through the market this week could be true, which can hardly be helping staff morale or security. But Warburg should think twice before throwing its hat in with another investment bank like JP Morgan on the rebound from its doomed romance with Morgan Stanley. The more desperate Warburg looks to sell itself, the further the asking price falls.

More plausible are suggestions that Warburg may sell off some of its 75 per cent stake in Mercury Asset Management. Relations with MAM appear to have been strained by the Morgan Stanley affair. By reducing its stake to a 49 per cent minority, the group would free more than £360 million, which it could reinvest in its distribution business.

Warburg may decide its ownership of MAM is too precious to sacrifice for a short-term capital injection. Whatever it does, it cannot afford to be the speculative stock it has become. That is deeply unsettling for its most valuable asset, its staff.



HSBC

HSBC's creation of a Californian trade bank in a joint venture with Wells Fargo may not be the largest deal it has ever done, but it shows that the bank is not slacking in its attempt to build a global network to service the world's trade flows.

As the eastern-most edge of the Pacific Rim, California does 65 per cent of its international trade flows, and HSBC, with its extensive branch network through south-east Asia, is the obvious bank to service those $130 billion revenues.

HSBC's joint venture with Wells Fargo in 1989 filled the hole in HSBC's network to some extent, but HSBC deserved an equity stake in the bank receiving all the business referrals. If the bank can capture even a quarter of the state's Asian trade flow at a 1 per cent commission, it would generate revenues of more than $300 million.

The only drawback is that HSBC's ownership of Marine Midland in New York state prevents it from taking a controlling stake in the joint venture. However, the business generated from Wells Fargo's name and omnipresence in California should provide its wholly-owned branches elsewhere with extra revenue. The deal is too small to have more than a limited impact on group earnings, but it shows that HSBC has no intention of forgetting its core franchise.

French property

FOR years, French banks have been in denial over the plunging value of their property assets. However, over the past fortnight, those glorious institutions have been shaken as the full truth about their overvalued real estate came to the surface.

Rebuilding institutions' confidence will require expensive therapy and this week GAN, the insurance group, indicated that it would follow Crédit Lyonnais with demands for a recapitalisation by the state costing many billions of francs.

Not a happy prospect for French taxpayers, but, for real estate investors, this could break the logjam in the Paris office market. Despite plunging rents, institutions have been reluctant to crystallise losses by selling and yields have stubbornly held at 6 per cent or less. Foreign companies have been trying to buy and have scored some success in the retail sector, notably by Hammerson, Rodamco and the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority.

The office market, however, is still illiquid. French leases — typically with a third-year break option — make investment less attractive than in the UK, and central Paris vacancy rates have reached unheard of levels of 10-15 per cent. That should bring prices down, and stabilisation in rents should draw more investment.

EDITED BY NEIL BENNETT

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Mar	1004-1003	May	1057-1055
May	1005-1004	Jul	1065-1064
Jul	1015-1014	Sep	1075-1073
Sep	1026-1025	Dec	1088-1086
Dec	1037-1035		
Mar	1047-1046		Volume: 4878

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jan	2943-2934	Sep	2905-2895
Mar	2965-6964	Nov	2910-2895
May	2920-2919	Jan	2905-2895
Jul	2900-2899		Volume: 5397

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	361.5-60.0
Spot: 412.0		Dec	356.4-53.6
Mar	413.8-13.0	Mar	350.0-47.6
May	409.0-08.5	May	350.4-45.8
Aug	392.5-91.5		Volume: 1914

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on January 19

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	81.68	117.37	120.54
(+/-)	+5.29	+0.41	-2.56
Eng/Wales	81.77	117.41	119.89
(+/-)	+5.31	+0.40	-2.53
(%)	+10.0	-18.0	-4.0
Scotland	75.02	117.16	122.24
(+/-)	+4.46	+0.48	-2.59
(%)	+15.0	-17.0	-12.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	17.20	n/c
Brent 15 day (Mar)	16.85	n/c
Brent 15 day (Apr)	16.65	n/c
W Texas Intermediate (Mar)	18.45	n/c
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	18.25	n/c

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B: 163 (-3)	O: 164 (-3)
Gasoil EEC	145 (-1)	146 (-1)
Non EEC 1H Feb	145 (-2)	147 (-1)
Non EEC 1H Mar	148 (-1)	149 (-1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	107 (-2)	109 (-2)
Naphtha	162 (n/c)	163 (-1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Feb	143.50 BID	May	147.25-47.50
Mar	145.50-45.75	Jun	147.75-48.00
Apr	146.50-46.75		Vol: 14810

BRENT (6.00pm)

Mar	16.87-16.88	Jun	16.58-16.62
Apr	16.67-16.69	Jul	16.50 BID
May	16.61-16.64		Vol. 28151

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Jan	108.10	Jan	105.00
Mar	109.10	Mar	105.25
May	110.80	May	107.00
Jul	112.50	Sep	97.65
Sep	97.75	Nov	98.65
Volume: 445		Volume: 14	

POTATO (£/t)	Open	Close
Apr	332.0	338.3
May	350.0	365.0
Jun	unq	unq
		Volume: 196

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/kg)

Feb 115.25-115.75

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Jan 95	2006	1990	2005
Feb 95	1940	1900	1905
Mar 95	1940	1899	1909
Apr 95	1910	1855	1870

Vol. 304 lots Open interest: 3725

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LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day) — Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	3064.5-3065.0	3069.0-3070.0	1894525
Lead ($/tonne)	693.00-694.00	709.00-710.00	172000
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1205.5-1206.0	1232.0-1233.0	690325
Tin ($/tonne)	5460.0-5470.0	6560.0-6561.0	25470
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	2105.5-2106.5	2142.0-2143.0	1540300
Nickel ($/tonne)	9915.0-9920.0	10080-10090	55638

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts Apr	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
Alld Dom.	500	37	45	52	9	15½	18½
(*522½)	550	12	19½	27½	33	41	43
Argyll	260	22½	27	29	6	10½	12
(*274)	280	10½	16	18	14	20½	22
ASDA	60	9½	11	12	1	2½	3
(*69)	70	3	5	6	4½	6	7
Boots	460	34	42	45½	8½	15	18½
(*478½)	500	15	21	25½	25½	36	39
Br Airways	330	37½	44½	46½	4½	10½	14
(*359)	360	19	26	32	15	23½	27
BP	390	31	38½	43½	6	11½	13½
(*411½)	420	14	22	27½	19½	25	27½
Br Steel	140	17	20½	22½	2½	5	6
(*152½)	160	5½	9½	12	11	14	15
C & W	360	23½	33½	39½	11½	19	23
(*368)	390	10	19½	25½	28	35	39½
CU	454	43½	—	—	10	—	—
(*492½)	493	17½	—	—	28	—	—
ICI	750	24	50	53	26	37½	38
(*766)	800	12½	27	35	57½	63	67
Kingfshr	390	25	30½	35½	14	22	26
(*397)	420	9½	17	22½	27	39½	43½
Land Sec	550	30	37½	47	10½	23	26
(*562)	600	5½	14½	19½	38	54½	57
M & S	360	29	34½	38	5	10	11
(*379½)	390	12	17½	22½	17½	23½	25½
Nat West	460	25	32	37½	22	27	33½
(*468)	500	9½	16	21½	49½	52	57
Sainsbury	390	37½	42½	45	4½	11	13
(*417)	430	18	23½	31	14	24	26
Shell	650	56½	62½	70½	7½	10½	13½
(*696½)	700	21	31½	40	27½	31½	37
Smkl Bch	460	23½	32½	40	17	24½	28
(*463½)	500	8½	16	23	43	48½	51
Storehse	220	14	19	22½	5	8	10½
(*226½)	240	5	9½	13	16	19½	21
Trafalgar	60	11	12½	14	1	2	2½
(*69)	70	5	7	8½	4½	6	6½
Unilever	1100	61½	77½	96	19½	31½	37
(*1140)	1150	31½	50	67½	44	55½	60½
Zeneca	850	58	70½	78½	19½	28	34
(*891½)	900	28	43½	51½	44½	52	58
Series		**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**	**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**
Grnd Met	360	11	22½	28½	5½	11	16½
(*365)	390	1	10	15	25½	29	33
Ladbroke	160	9½	15½	19	2½	8½	11
(*167)	180	1	6½	10½	14	20	22½
Utd Bisc	300	13½	20	25½	3½	13	15
(*308½)	330	1½	7	13	22	34	37

Series		Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts Apr	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
BAA	450	29½	—	—	8½	—	—
(*465½)	475	15	—	—	20½	—	—
Thames W	460	25	31½	35	13½	27	28
(*464½)	500	9	15½	18	38½	52½	53½
Series		**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**	**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**
BAT Ind	420	24½	33½	39½	3	16½	25
(*440)	460	3	13	20½	23	39½	47½
BTR	300	10½	15½	22½	4	13	16½
(*305)	330	1	4½	10½	25	33½	36
Br Aero	448	12½	29½	—	6½	25½	—
(*452)	487	1½	13½	—	35½	49	—
Br Telcm	390	10½	21½	29½	3½	12	19
(*393½)	420	1	9	15½	20½	29½	37
Cadbury	390	16	23	32	3½	24½	19½
(*400)	420	3	9½	18½	21	33½	36½
Guinness	390	30	37	42	1	7½	10½
(*417½)	420	9	17½	25	9½	21	23½
GEC	260	19	26½	30½	0½	4	8
(*277½)	280	5	14	18	6½	10½	17
Hanson	220	18	21	24½	0½	4	7½
(*236½)	240	4	9½	14	7	12½	16
LASMO	140	6	12½	15½	2½	7	8½
(*143)	160	0½	4½	7	17	19½	20½
Lucas	180	7½	13½	19	4	10	12½
(*182½)	200	1	6	10½	18	22½	24½
Pilkngtn	140	15½	19½	22	0½	2	4
(*154½)	160	2½	7	11	7½	10	12
Prudential	300	16	22	27	2	12	16
(*313)	330	2	9	13½	18	30	33½
Redland	420	21	30½	37	5½	20½	26
(*435)	460	3	12	18½	28	47	50½
R-Royce	160	6½	12	15½	3½	9	11
(*162½)	180	0½	4½	7½	17½	22	23½
Tesco	240	9½	15½	19½	3½	9½	12½
(*244½)	260	1½	6	11	16	22	24
Vodafone	183	9½	—	—	3	—	—
(*187½)	200	1½	8	12	13½	17	19½
Williams	300	25½	32	35½	1	6½	9½
(*323½)	330	5	13	13½	11½	21	24½

FT-SE INDEX (*2991½)

	2850	2900	2950	3000	3050	3100
Calls						
Jan	141½	91½	41½			
Feb	157	114½	78½	48½	26	12½
Mar	171½	135	101½	72	49½	31½
Apr	194½	158½	129	99	76½	54½
Jun	—	182½	—	124½	—	79
Puts						
Jan				19	69	119
Feb	10½	16½	32½	54½	84	122
Mar	21	40	50½	77	105	138
Apr	46	62½	82½	102½	130	158½
Jun	—	90½	—	121	—	176½

Series		Calls Mar	Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Puts Mar	Puts Jun	Puts Sep
Abby Nat.	420	19½	26½	33	13½	21	27½
(*428)	460	4	11½	17½	43½	47½	52½
Amstrad	125	10½	15	—	3	6	—
(*132½)	150	1	5	—	19	21	—
Barclays	550	32½	44	53½	12	23½	32
(*570)	600	9	21½	31	43	52	59½
Blue Circ	260	18	23½	29	5½	14	16
(*270)	280	7½	14	18½	15	25	29½
Br Gas	300	14½	21	25½	6½	14	17
(*306½)	330	2½	8	12½	25	33	35
Dixons	200	7½	15	18½	9½	12½	16½
(*200)	220	2½	8	10½	24	26½	30
Forte	220	21½	26½	29½	2	7	9½
(*237½)	240	8½	15	19	9	16	19½
Hillsdwn	160	17	19½	21½	1	5½	8
(*174½)	180	4½	8	11	8½	16½	19
Lonrho	140	17½	22	24½	1½	4½	6½
(*157)	160	5	10½	13½	9½	13	16
Sears	100	2½	6	9	3½	6	7
(*101)	110	1½	4	5	10	12½	13
Thrn Eml	1000	36	65½	75	18½	30½	47½
(*1011½)	1050	15	40	49	46½	56½	74½
Tomkins	220	11	20	23	6	10½	15
(*226½)	240	3	11	14	19	22	26
TSB	220	12	17½	22	7	12	15
(*227)	240	4	9	13½	20½	24	27
Wellcome	650	55	70½	83½	19½	28½	38½
(*687½)	700	27½	44½	55½	43	53	62½
Series		**Apr**	**Jul**	**Oct**	**Apr**	**Jul**	**Oct**
Glaxo	600	55	70½	79½	12	20½	32
(*642)	650	26	43	51½	35	43	56½
HSBC	600	45	54½	60	24½	33½	43
(*625)	650	19½	31½	37½	54	62½	68½
Reuter	420	20½	29	37½	19½	23½	27½
(*421)	460	7	14	20½	46½	49	52
Series		**Feb**	**May**	**Jul**	**Feb**	**May**	**Jul**
Royal Ins	240	19	24	28½	2	10	12½
(*255½)	260	6½	13½	18½	10	20½	22½
Series		**Mar**	**Jun**	**Sep**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Sep**
Fisons	100	10½	15	18	3½	7	8½
(*105½)	110	5½	10	13½	4½	12	13½
Series		**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**	**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**
Eastern Gp	700	36	64	79½	2½	18½	36
(*729½)	750	10	36	53	28	45	60½
Series		**Mar**	**Jun**	**Sep**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Sep**
Natl Pwr	460	32½	44	50	7	17½	22
(*481)	500	11½	22½	30½	25½	38	42½
Scot Pwr	330	12½	25	28	13	19	25
(*333)	360	3	12½	16	34	37½	43½

January 20, 1995 Tot: 53991 Call: 23766 Put: 30225 FT-SE Call: 8732 Put: 12439

*Underlying security price.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Mar 95	3016.0	3026.0	2989.0	2996.0	17165
Previous open interest: 64210	Jun 95	3029.0	3031.0	3029.0	3006.5	64
FT-SE 250	Mar 95				3430.0	0
Previous open interest: 3944	Jun 95					0
Three Month Sterling	Mar 95	92.81	92.87	92.79	92.85	15207
Previous open interest: 415386	Jun 95	92.05	92.13	92.03	92.11	14473
	Sep 95	91.54	91.62	91.53	91.60	4334
Three Mth Eurodollar	Mar 95	93.20	93.20	93.20	93.20	15
Previous open interest: 2192	Jun 95				92.51	0
Three Mth Euro DM	Mar 95	94.66	94.73	94.65	94.71	31768
Previous open interest: 683623	Jun 95	94.21	94.28	94.19	94.26	35032
Long Gilt	Mar 95	101-02	101-10	100-26	101-04	46575
Previous open interest: 91198	Jun 95	101-02	101-08	101-02	101-08	58
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 95	108.02	108.11	108.00	108.08	2820
	Jun 95				107.38	0
German Gov Bd Bund	Mar 95	89.56	89.91	89.54	89.75	98601
Previous open interest: 196960	Jun 95	89.00	89.30	89.00	89.17	342
Three month ECU	Mar 95	93.41	93.46	93.40	93.43	945
Previous open interest: 22158	Jun 95	92.90	92.95	92.90	92.93	342
Euro Swiss Franc	Mar 95	95.65	95.70	95.59	95.68	8096
Previous open interest: 40327	Jun 95	95.30	95.35	95.27	95.32	2080
Italian Govmt Bond	Mar 95	99.32	99.49	99.10	99.33	27523
Previous open interest: 47862	Jun 95	98.30	98.30	98.30	98.43	200

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¼ Finance Hse 6¼

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6¼ Low 4 Week fixed: 5 15/16

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6¼ : 3 mth 6¼ . Sell: 2 mth 6 : 3 mth: 6¼ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6-5⅞	6⅛-6	6½-6⅜	6⅞-6¾	
Sterling Money Rates:	6⅛-6	6¼-6⅛	6⅝-6½	7⅛-7	7⅝-7½
Interbank:	6⅛-6	6¼-6⅛	6⅝-6½	7⅛-7	7⅝-7½

Overnight: open 6 , close 4 .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps:	6⅛	n/a	6⅝	7⅛	7⅝
Sterling CDs:	6⅛-6	6¼-6⅛	6⅝-6½	7-6⅞	7⅝-7½
Dollar CDs:	5.90-5.87	n/a	6.16-6.13	6.70-6.67	7.38-7.35
Building Society CDs:	6⅛-6	6¼-6⅛	6⅝-6½	7⅛-7	7⅝-7½

TREASURY BILLS: Applcs: £2,756m allotted: £500m: Bids: £98.535% received: n/1%: Last week: £98.55% received: 93%: Avge rate: £5.8761% last wk £5.8155%: Next week: £500m.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5⅝-5½	6-5⅞	6⅜-6¼	6¾-6⅝	5¼-4¾
Deutschemark:	4¾-4⅝	5-4⅞	5⅛-5	5⅜-5¼	5¼-4¾
French Franc:	5¾-5⅝	5⅞-5¾	6-5⅞	6⅜-6¼	6-5
Swiss Franc:	3¾-3⅝	3⅞-3¾	4⅛-3⅞	4⅜-4¼	4¼-3¾
Yen:	2¼-2	2⅜-2¼	2½-2⅜	2½-2⅜	2¼-1½

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $383.00-383.40 Close: $383.60-384.10 High: $384.20-384.70 Low: $382.45-382.95 AM: $383.00 PM: $383.85

Krugerrand: $386.00-388.00 (£243.00-245.00)

Platinum: $417.50 (£262.95) Silver: $4.88 (£3.075) Palladium: $156.25 (£98.35)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Jan 20	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.6877-2.6946	2.6890-2.6923	⅝-½pr	1-⅞pr
Brussels	49.43-49.55	49.43-49.53	7-2pr	17-9pr
Copenhagen	9.4570-9.4830	9.4570-9.4720	¼pr	-par 1¼-¼pr
Dublin	1.0080-1.0115	1.0085-1.0111	6-3pr	11-7pr
Frankfurt	2.3981-2.4029	2.3995-2.4027	⅝-½pr	1-⅞pr
Lisbon	247.41-248.15	247.41-248.05	65-74ds	220-237ds
Madrid	208.53-209.32	208.53-208.83	31-50ds	112-135ds
Milan	2530.60-2536.40	2530.60-2531.90	5-7ds	12-15ds
Montreal	2.2555-2.2610	2.2579-2.2610	.30-0.42ds	0.60-0.79ds
New York	1.5846-1.5880	1.5870-1.5880	0.04-0.02pr	0.11-0.06pr
Oslo	10.4930-10.5130	10.4980-10.5130	1¼-⅝pr	3¼-1½pr
Paris	8.3040-8.3210	8.3060-8.3200	⅝-¼pr	1½-1¼pr
Stockholm	11.7720-11.8610	11.7750-11.7990	1½-1⅞ds	3½-5⅛ds
Tokyo	157.00-158.02	157.66-157.93	⅝-½pr	1⅝-1½pr
Vienna	16.87-16.93	16.90-16.93	2⅛-1⅝pr	6⅛-4⅛pr
Zurich	2.0133-2.0209	2.0180-2.0209	⅝-½pr	1⅝-1pr

Source: Extel

Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3000-1.3008
Austria	10.64-10.65
Belgium (Com)	31.18-31.19
Canada	1.4213-1.4218
Denmark	5.9675-5.9705
France	5.2460-5.2475
Germany	1.5126-1.5127
Hong Kong	7.7325-7.7335
Ireland	1.5718-1.5728
Italy	1594.00-1597.00
Japan	99.50-99.60
Malaysia	2.5515-2.5525
Netherlands	1.6962-1.6967
Norway	6.6170-6.6190
Portugal	156.18-156.28
Singapore	1.4460-1.4470
Spain	131.62-131.72
Sweden	7.4196-7.4296
Switzerland	1.2700-1.2710

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5865-1.5891
Australia dollar	2.0616-2.0636
Bahrain dinar	0.5915-0.6035
Brazil real*	1.3390-1.3431
Cyprus pound	0.7325-0.7425
Finland markka	7.3700-7.4860
Greece drachma	370.25-377.25
Hong Kong dollar	12.2730-12.2800
India rupee	49.27-50.23
Kuwait dinar KD	0.468-0.478
Malaysia ringgit	4.0497-4.0531
Mexico peso	n/a
New Zealand dollar	2.4704-2.4734
Pakistan rupee	48.35 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.8825-6.0085
Singapore dollar	2.2948-2.2978
S Africa rand (fin)	6.5546-6.5906
S Africa rand (com)	5.6203-5.6264
U A E dirham	5.7600-5.8840

Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	159	Legal & Gn	642
ASDA Gp	7,600	Lloyds Bk	2,400
Abbey Natl	2,200	MEPC	428
Alld Dom	1,900	Marks Spr	2,400
Argyll Gp	5,300	NatWst Bk	5,400
Arjo Wiggn	3,100	Nat Power	1,500
AB Foods	482	Nth Wst W	744
BAA	2,500	P & O	768
BAT Inds	2,600	Pearson	2,000
BOC	1,700	PowerGen	1,700
BP	7,100	Prudential	2,700
BTR	11,000	RMC	367
BT	7,400	RTZ	4,200
Bk of Scot	726	Rank Org	1,400
Barclays	2,600	Reckitt Col	2,300
Bass	3,800	Redland	927
Blue Circle	2,500	Reed Intl	4,000
Boots	691	Rentokil	989
Bowater	2,300	Reuters	5,100
Brit Aero	2,700	Rolls Royce	7,500
Brit Airwys	5,800	Ryl Ins	4,500
Brit Gas	13,000	Ryl Bk Scot	562
Brit Steel	7,700	Sainsbury	3,900
Burmah Cast	627	Schroders	5
Cable Wire	2,500	Scot & New	737
Cadbury	722	Scot Power	1,100
Caradon	2,400	Sears	1,300
Carlton Cms	1,300	Svrn Trent	1,500
Cm Union	493	Shell Trans	3,800
Courtaulds	660	Siebe	528
De La Rue	667	SmKl Bch	3,900
Ern Elec	17,000	Smith Nph	4,500
Enterpr Oil	919	Sthrn Elec	973
Forte	2,100	Std Chartd	1,500
GKN	1,200	Sun Allnce	1,600
GRE	1,900	TI Gp	1,500
GUS	1,200	TSB	4,300
Gen Acc	987	Tesco	2,200
Gen Elec	4,000	Thames W	880
Glaxo	6,200	Thrn EMI	1,000
Granada	2,200	Tomkins	4,500
Grand Met	4,600	Unilever	354
Guinness	3,400	Utd Bisc	1,100
HSBC	5,100	Vodafone	5,000
Hanson	7,500	Warburg (SG)	991
ICI	4,100	Wellcome	5,200
Inchcape	1,300	Whitbread	1,300
Kingfisher	826	Wlms Hld	648
Ladbroke	3,200	Wolseley	476
Land Secs	1,300	Zeneca	5,600

WALL STREET

	Jan 20 midday	Jan 19 close
AMP Inc	73	73¼
AMR Corp	57⅝	58
AT & T	48¼	48⅝
Abbott Labs	32¼	32⅜
Advanced Micro	31½	32
Aetna Life	49⅞	50⅜
Ahmanson (HF)	16½	16⅞
Air Prod & Chem	46⅛	46½
Albertson's	29¼	29⅜
Alcan Alumnm	25¾	26⅛
Alco Standard	66⅛	67⅜
Allied Signal	35⅜	36⅛
Alum Co of Am	86⅛	87½
Amax Gold Inc	5⅝	5⅝
Amerada Hess	44⅞	44⅞
Amer Brands	36⅛	36⅜
Amer El Power	34	34½
Amer Express	30	30⅜
Amer Genl Corp	28⅛	29⅛
Amer Home Pr	66⅛	66
Amer Intl	100⅛	101⅝
Amer Stores	26⅛	26⅛
Ameritech	42⅛	42⅝
Amoco	59⅝	59
Anheuser-Busch	52⅞	52⅛
Apple Computer	44½	45⅛
Archer Daniels	19⅛	19⅜
Armco	6⅜	6½
Armstrng Wrld	44	43½
Asarco	30⅛	30⅛
Ashland Oil	33⅛	33
Atl Richfield	104⅛	104⅝
Auto Data Pro	59⅝	59⅞
Avery Dennison	35⅜	36⅛
Avon Products	56⅛	56⅛
Baker Hughes	17⅜	17½
Baltim Gas & El	22⅛	22⅛
Banc One	27⅛	27⅝
BankAmerica	41⅛	41⅛
Bank of NY	29	29⅜
Bankers Tr NY	56⅝	57⅛
Barnett Banks	40⅛	40⅛
Bausch & Lomb	35⅛	35⅝
Baxter Intl	26⅛	27⅛
Bectn Dickson	51½	51⅛
Bell Atlantic	50⅛	50⅝
BellSouth	54⅛	54⅝
Black & Decker	24⅛	24⅜
Block (H&R)	34⅛	34⅝
Boeing	47	48⅛
Boise Cascade	29⅛	29⅜
Borden Inc	13	13
Bristol Myrs Sq	58⅝	59⅝
Browning Ferris	30⅛	30
Brunswick	20⅜	20⅛
Burlington Nthn	50⅛	51⅛
CBS	58⅝	59⅛
CNA Financial	67⅛	68
CPC Intl	53⅛	53⅝
CSX	73⅝	74⅛
Campbell Soup	41⅛	42⅛
Can Pacific	13⅞	14
Cptl Cities ABC	86⅛	86⅛
Carolina Pwr	27⅛	27⅛
Caterpillar	52⅝	54⅛
Central & SW	22⅛	23⅛
Champion Intl	39⅛	40⅛
Chase Manhat	33⅛	33⅝
Chemical Bk	37	37⅛
Chevron Corp	45⅛	45⅛
Chrysler	47⅛	49⅛
Chubb Corp	79⅛	80
Cigna Corp	67⅛	67⅛
Citicorp	38⅛	39⅝
Clorox	55⅛	55⅝
Coastal Corp	27	27⅛
Coca Cola	50⅛	50⅝
Colgate-Palmolive	58⅛	58⅝
Columbia Gas	23⅛	23⅛
Compaq Comp	41⅛	42⅛
Comp Ass Intl	53⅛	54
Conagra	30⅛	30⅛
Cons Edison	27⅛	27⅝
Cons Nat Gas	34	34⅛
Cons Rail	53	54
Cooper Inds	35⅛	35⅛
Corning Inc	32	32⅝
Crown Cork	39⅛	39⅛
Dana Corp	23⅛	23⅛
Dayton Hudson	69⅛	69
Deere	70⅛	72⅛
Delta Air Lines	55⅛	56
Deluxe Corp	26⅛	26⅝
Detroit Edison	27⅛	27
Digital Equip	35⅛	36⅛
Dillard Dept St	27⅛	27
Disney (Walt)	46⅛	46⅝
Dominion Res	36⅛	36⅝
Donelley (RR)	30⅛	30
Dover Corp	58⅛	58⅝
Dow Chemical	67⅛	68⅛
Dow Jones	31⅛	31⅛
Dresser	19⅛	19⅛
Duke Power	39⅛	39⅛
Dun & Bradstreet	53	52⅝
Du Pont	57	57⅛
Eastman Kodak	48⅛	48
Eaton Corp	50⅛	50⅛
Emerson Elec	64⅛	64⅛
Engelhard Corp	24⅛	24⅛

	Jan 20 midday	Jan 19 close
Enron Corp	29⅛	29⅛
Entergy	23⅛	23⅜
Ethyl Corp	11	10⅝
Exxon	62⅝	62
FMC Corp	58⅛	59
FPL Group	35⅛	35⅛
Federal Express	62⅛	63⅛
Fed Nat Mtge	69⅝	70⅛
First Chicago	46⅛	47
First Interstate	71⅛	70⅝
First Union Rlty	8⅛	8⅛
Fleet Finl Grp	30⅛	31
Fluor Corp	47⅛	47⅛
Ford Motor	28	27⅛
GTE Corp	31	31⅛
Gannett	51⅛	52
Gap Inc Del	32⅛	32⅛
Gen Dynamics	44⅛	44⅝
Gen Electric	50⅛	51
Gen Mills	56⅛	58⅛
Gen Motors	38⅛	40⅛
Gen Reinsurance	125⅛	127⅛
Gen Signal	35⅛	35
Genuine Parts	36⅛	36⅛
Georgia Pac	76⅛	77⅛
Gillette	72⅛	71⅛
Glaxo ADR	20⅛	20⅛
Goodrich (BF)	43⅛	43⅛
Goodyear Tire	36⅛	37⅛
Grace (WR)	40⅛	40⅛
Gt At Pac Tea	18⅛	18⅛
Great Wstn Fin	16⅛	16⅛
Halliburton	35⅛	35⅛
Harcourt General	34⅛	34⅛
Heinz (HJ)	38⅛	39⅛
Hercules	118⅛	119⅛
Hershey Foods	49⅛	49⅛
Hewlett Packard	104⅛	106⅛
Hilton Hotels	64⅛	65⅛
Home Depot	46⅛	47⅛
Homestake Mng	17⅛	17⅛
Honeywell	34⅛	35⅛
Household Ind	40⅛	39⅛
Houston Inds	37	37⅛
Humana	22⅛	22⅛
ITT Corp	90⅛	90⅛
Illinois Tool	40⅛	41⅛
Illinova	22	22⅛
INCO	29⅛	29⅛
Ingersoll Rand	31⅛	31⅛
Inland Steel	31	33⅛
Intel Corp	69⅛	70⅛
IBM	75⅛	76⅛
Intl Flav & Fr	46⅛	46⅛
Intl Paper	76⅛	77⅛
James River Va	22⅛	22⅛
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	54⅛	54⅛
Kellogg	54⅛	57
Kerr-McGee	46⅛	45⅛
Kimberly-Clark	48⅛	47⅛
Kmart	13⅛	13⅛
Knight-Ridder	52⅛	53⅛
Lilly (Eli)	64⅛	65⅛
Limited Inc	17⅛	17⅛
LIN Brdcstng	135⅛	136
Lincoln Nat	35⅛	35⅛
Litton	35⅛	35⅛
Liz Claiborne	17	17
Lockheed	72⅛	72⅛
Louisiana Pac	29⅛	29⅛
MCI Comm	18⅛	18⅛
Marriott Int	28⅛	29
Marsh & McLnn	76⅛	77
Masco Corp	23⅛	23⅛
May Dept St	34⅛	34⅛
Maytag Corp	15⅛	15⅛
McDonalds	29	28⅛
McDonnell D	49	48⅛
McGraw Hill	64⅛	64
Mead Corp	53⅛	53⅛
Medtronic	57⅛	56⅛
Mellon Bk	33⅛	33⅛
Melville Corp	31⅛	31⅛
Merck Inc	38	38⅛
Merrill Lynch	36	37
Minnesota Mine	52⅛	52⅛
Mobil Corp	85⅛	84⅛
Monsanto	72⅛	72⅛
Morgan (JP)	58⅛	58⅛
Motorola Inc	61⅛	62⅛
Natl Medical	14	14
Natl Semi	19⅛	19⅛
Natl Service Ind	25⅛	25⅛
Navistar Intl	15⅛	16⅛
NBD Bancorp	28⅛	28⅛
NY Times A	22⅛	22⅛
Newmont Mng	37⅛	37⅛
Niag Mohawk	14⅛	14⅛
Nike B	71⅛	71⅛
NL Industries	12⅛	12⅛
Noram Energy	5⅛	5⅛
Nordstrom	42⅛	42⅛
Norfolk Sthrn	63	63⅛
Nthn State Pwr	45⅛	45⅛
Norwest Corp	23⅛	23⅛
Nynex Corp	36⅛	36⅛
Occidental Pet	19⅛	19⅛
Ohio Edison	19⅛	19⅛
Oracle Systems	43⅛	44⅛
Oryx Energy Co	10⅛	12

	Jan 20 midday	Jan 19 close
Owens Corning	31¼	31½
PNC Financial	21⅛	21⅛
PPG Industries	37⅛	37
Paccar Inc	44	44½
Pacificorp	18⅛	18⅛
Pac Enterprises	21½	21½
Pac Gas & Elect	24⅛	24⅛
Pac Telesis	28⅛	29⅛
Pall Corp	18⅛	19⅛
Panhandle East	20⅛	20
Parker Hannifin	48	49⅛
Peco Energy	25⅛	25⅛
Penney (JC)	40⅛	41½
Pennzoil	44⅛	44⅛
Pepsico	34⅛	34⅛
Pfizer	78⅛	79⅛
Phelps Dodge	59⅛	60⅛
Philip Morris	56⅛	56⅛
Phillips Pet	32	31⅛
Pitney Bowes	32⅛	32⅛
Polaroid	30⅛	30
PriceCostco	13⅛	13⅛
Procter & Gmbl	61⅛	61⅛
Providian	33⅛	34
Pub Serv E & G	26⅛	27
Quaker Oats	33⅛	34⅛
Ralston Purina	45	45⅛
Raychem Corp	37⅛	37⅛
Raytheon	65⅛	64⅛
Reebok Intl	37⅛	37⅛
Reynolds Metals	53⅛	54
Roadway Srvcs	49⅛	50⅛
Rockwell Intl	38	38
Rohm & Haas	57	57⅛
Royal Dutch	110⅛	109⅛
Rubbermaid	29⅛	28⅛
Safeco Corp	51⅛	51⅛
St Paul's Cos	45⅛	46⅛
Salomon Inc	37⅛	38⅛
Santa Fe Pac	18⅛	18
Sara Lee Corp	25	25
Scecorp	15⅛	15⅛
Schering Plough	73⅛	73⅛
Schlumberger	53	52⅛
Scott Paper	71⅛	71⅛
Seagram	30	30
Sears Roebuck	45	45⅛
Shell Trans	66⅛	66⅛
Sherwin Wlms	32⅛	33
Skyline Corp	17⅛	17⅛
Snap-On-Tools	32⅛	32⅛
Southern Co	20⅛	20⅛
Swestern Bell	41	41
Sprint Corp	27⅛	27⅛
Stanley Works	38⅛	38⅛
Sun Company	29⅛	29
Sun Microsys	32⅛	33⅛
Suntrust	49⅛	49⅛
Supervalu	22⅛	22⅛
Sysco Corp	25⅛	26
TRW Inc	65⅛	65⅛
TCC Inds	2⅛	2⅛
Tandem Comp	18⅛	18⅛
Tandy Corp	48⅛	49⅛
Teledyne	22⅛	22
Temple Inland	48⅛	48⅛
Tenneco	43⅛	43⅛
Texaco	61⅛	61⅛
Texas Instr	74⅛	74⅛
Texas Utilities	32⅛	33⅛
Textron	50⅛	50⅛
Time Warner	35⅛	35⅛
Times-Mirror	32⅛	32⅛
Timken	34	34⅛
Torchmark	36⅛	37
Toys R Us	28⅛	29
Transamerica	51⅛	51⅛
Travelers	34⅛	34⅛
Tribune	53⅛	53⅛
Tyco Labs	48⅛	48⅛
UST Inc	29⅛	29⅛
UAL	98⅛	99⅛
USX Marathon	16⅛	16⅛
Unicom	24⅛	25
Unilever NV	116⅛	116⅛
Union Camp	48⅛	48⅛
Union Carbide	28⅛	28⅛
Union Pacific	49⅛	49⅛
Unisys Corp	9	9⅛
USAIR Group	4⅛	5
USF&G Corp	15⅛	15⅛
US Life	34⅛	35⅛
US West	35⅛	35⅛
United Tech	64	64
Unocal Corp	26⅛	26⅛
Upjohn	30⅛	31⅛
VF Corp	49⅛	49
WMX Tech	27⅛	27⅛
Wal-Mart Stores	21⅛	21⅛
Warner-Lambert	74	73⅛
Wells Fargo	143	143⅛
Westinghouse El	14	14
Weyerhaeuser	39⅛	39⅛
Whirlpool	50⅛	50⅛
Whitman	16	16
Winn Dixie	52⅛	52⅛
Woolworth	16	16⅛
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	45⅛	45⅛
Xerox	104⅛	105⅛
Yellow Corp	22⅛	23

TRUST WATCH 28
A weekly guide to what's new in unit trusts

WEEKEND MONEY

NETWORKING 33
OK for advisers but is it good for investors?

I thee endow — even after the divorce

Liz Dolan reports on a couple who found their insurance policy contained 'third party' cover

The chickens released during the endowment mortgage boom of the 1980s are flocking home to roost. First came fears that falling stock markets during the recession could ultimately slash maturity values to below the sum needed to repay the loan. Then followed the agonising choice of whether or not to increase premiums to prevent a shortfall later on.

Now, a growing number of couples and friends who teamed up to buy a home in the 1980s are splitting up and trying to disentangle themselves from joint mortgage arrangements. In the process, they are discovering just how complicated such policies can be to unravel.

Endowment mortgages only suit extremely settled people who know they will never, ever change their domestic arrangements during the life of the policy. But very few people, if any, can ever be certain that their circumstances will not change during the next 25, or 30, years.

Consider the case of Gloria and Christopher Amey. Five years after buying their current home, they suddenly discovered that the endowment policy underpinning their mortgage was not, as they had thought, in their names, but in those of Mr Amey and his ex-wife.

Mr Amey had always assumed that his first wife's name had been erased from the policy at the time of their divorce in 1987, when the marital home was sold. The firm of solicitors that handled both the divorce and the sale of the marital home also did the conveyancing for the 1989 purchase.

To begin with, bonus statements arrived periodically from the policy issuer, Sun Alliance, addressed simply to Mr and Mrs C.F. Amey. Then, last year, one arrived bearing the first Mrs Amey's initials as well. The Ameys learnt that the policy had been overlooked during the divorce proceedings.

"A divorce is a pretty traumatic event. You don't always think of everything when it's going through," Mrs Amey said. "That's one of the reasons you employ a solicitor. Chris asked him if everything had been sorted out and he said it had."

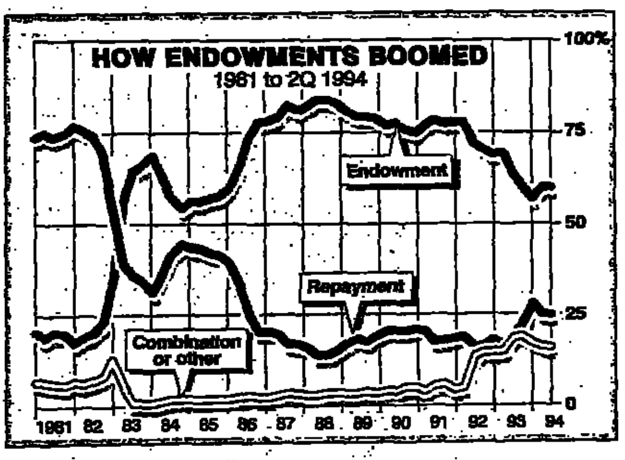
Mr Amey has been unable to agree a mutually acceptable pay-off with his former wife. The solicitor will not comment as a claim for compensation is being considered by the firm's indemnity insurer.

As things stand, the policy could still pay off the mortgage on maturity. But, if the first Mrs Amey decides to go to court and subsequently wins the right to a substantial share of the proceeds, repayment may be difficult.

In addition, the present wife's life is not, as she had previously believed, insured under the policy and, if Mr Amey dies, the ex-wife receives any excess after the mortgage is repaid.

The mortgage lender, the Bristol & West Building Society, was unaware of the situation until alerted to the problem a year ago. Given that the endowment policy had been originally taken out to repay a mortgage granted by the same society to Mr Amey and his first wife, some might think it strange that no one had thought to ask the present Mr and Mrs Amey how they were going to pay off their current mortgage — especially as the Ameys were under the impression that the policy was now in the name of Mr Amey and his new wife.

> ‘We have seen court orders where men have had to pay the whole lot to their ex-wives’



Asked why the matter had not come to light when the mortgage was granted in 1989, a spokesman said: "The solicitor always asks what policy is assigned to the mortgage. The society isn't interested in that side. It's up to the borrower to get sufficient back-up."

There was nothing on the file to indicate the borrower had remarried, he added. Bristol & West's files go back only seven years.

The society stopped physically holding borrowers' insurance policies assigned to the loan in 1990. For some reason, the Ameys' deeds were not lodged with the society until 1991.

The spokesman denied that Bristol & West was in any way worried about the disputed ownership of the policy. "If something goes wrong, we have first call on the property," he said. "That's all we're concerned about."

However, on Thursday this week, the Ameys received a letter from the society's solicitor, saying that he had put in an internal request for their microfiche file, a clear indication that the Bristol & West was becoming uneasy.

The letter said that if, as the solicitor understood, the endowment policy was a condition of the mortgage agreement, and wife number one were later to pursue a claim for the proceeds, the matter must be taken up with the Ameys' previous solicitor.

"We've kept Bristol & West informed all along the line," says Mrs Amey. "They know all the details. It's only now that Sun Alliance has said there might be a problem that they have started to get worried." The Sun Alliance admits: "We see this sort of situation quite regularly. A lot of men are convinced the policy is theirs, and they're a bit upset to have to pay half the money to a woman they may hate.

"We have seen court orders where ex-husbands have had to pay the whole lot to their ex-wives."

The insurer has, in its files, a record of instructions from Mr Amey's solicitor to transfer the ex-wife's share of the policy into Mr Amey's sole name. A form was sent out, but, when it was not returned, the insurance company did not pursue the matter.

"If a firm of solicitors is dealing with something like this on behalf of their client, we can't interfere," it said.

SOUTH WEST

Wife insurance: Gloria and Christopher Amey discovered their endowment policy was not what it seemed

WEEKEND MONEY IS EDITED BY ANNE ASHWORTH

Tax row for absent parents

A difference of opinion has broken out over the interpretation of a section in the Finance Bill, currently before Parliament. The section relates to tax relief on maintenance agreements drawn up before 1988. The issue is one of a series of contentious questions that have arisen over the Bill in the last week.

Leading tax accountant Maurice Parry-Wingfield, of Touche Ross, contends that an obscure schedule, "Minor and Consequential Amendments", dealing with rules on income from trusts and other settlements could be taken to mean that the tax relief given to parents paying maintenance to their children under such agreements could be removed.

Yesterday evening, however, the Inland Revenue disputed Mr Parry-Wingfield's understanding of the clause, maintaining that only a very small number of agreements would be affected and that relief would not be withdrawn from the thousands of parents currently benefiting from the concession.

A spokeswoman did not give further details of which agreements would be spared and which affected. When issue is finally clarified, the impact on those who fall within the scope of the change in the law might be considerable. Mr Parry-Wingfield calculates that a father paying £2,500 each to three offspring every year could be left about £2,300 worse off.

Until 1988 anyone paying maintenance, under a court order, was entitled to deduct the gross sum from his or her total income for tax purposes. The money was treated as taxable income of the recipient. However, in the case of children, there was usually little or no tax to pay, because the payment could be set against their personal tax allowance.

ANNE ASHWORTH

The Autolycus approach

ANTHONY HARRIS

Don't say you weren't warned. 1995 has got off to a dreary start, and it looks like going on that way. The trouble is cost pressures, which mean a squeeze, whatever happens. On the conventional central bank view, they threaten inflation; so both the Fed and the Bank of England will be pushing up interest rates further in an effort to slow economic growth. On the modern, structural-turning-point view, this is unnecessary: wary shoppers and low-cost competitors will ensure that rising costs will be absorbed at the cost of profit margins. We are likely to get the worst of both worlds — cautious overkill by the central banks and relentless competition. No wonder the equity indices are sullen.

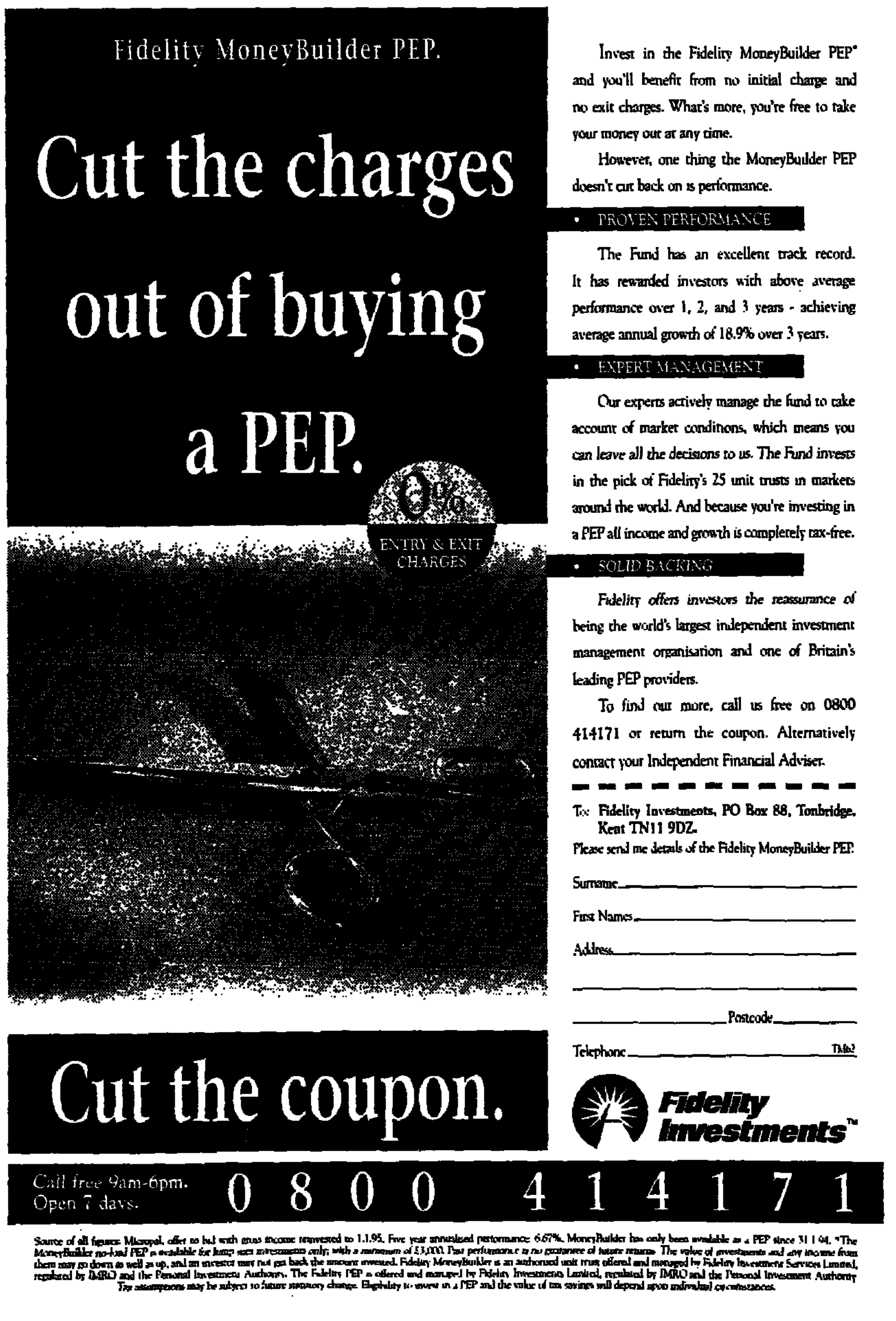
What to do at times like this? If you think like Eddie George, no class of investment looks really safe; you will retreat into cash (or into indexed bonds, if you think that the squeeze may produce a hard economic landing, and so depress real interest rates). If you are a modernist you may well go for an old-fashioned portfolio. The real yields on conventional bonds may be at a once-in-a-lifetime level, and, since the Goode report, the pension funds are buying gilts, regardless of economic fashion. There is sound reasoning behind all these strategies; anyone who finds this column convincing will already be building up cash and bond holdings.

Prudent; but where's the fun? (I assume that you do get some fun out of managing your own portfolio; if not, you would save yourself much pain by handing the job over to a good unit trust and concentrating on your golf handicap.) So, you still want to buy some equities; the question is how to pick them. In a buoyant bull market, it often pays to follow fashion and go for promise, or simply glamour — the strategy of the hopeful punter first dramatised years ago by William Rees-Mogg as Mr In. With luck, he can make the spectacular gains. But he does badly in a sullen market.

On average, too, fashion-following is surprisingly unrewarding; study the unit trust performance tables, and you may be surprised to notice how often the dull-as-ditchwater income funds outperform the supposedly glamorous growth funds. Here is Lord Out at work. Lord O likes income; still more, he likes stocks which seem to have nowhere to go but up. This has in the past led to some spectacular losses: Lord O was a hard-core holder of British Motor Corporation, which proved to be a corporate Titanic. He is still sulking over his losses in BTR and Northern Foods, which he only bought after the fun was long over. But on average, he still does surprisingly well; he never makes a killing, but a lot of solid gains.

This approach may sound to you like contrarianism, commended more than once in this column; but contrarians and the Lord Os of this world are in fact only distant cousins. Contrarianism is not about stock picking, but about market timing: buy when all the comment you can read is bearish, and vice versa. But Lord O is, in Wall Street language, a value investor — he looks for shares which are underpriced on what he sees as the fundamentals. This can [illegible] a golden strategy; I know one leading US fund manager who consistently beats the market through scientific value investing. But this requires real professionalism and active trading: constant analysis of underlying company cash flows, buying anomalies on quite small margins, and selling when the market valuation catches up. Only midnight oil burners need apply.

For ordinary mortals, I suggest a compromise, a contrarian search for value: the Autolycus approach, named after Shakespeare's snapper-up of trifles in *The Winter's Tale*. For example, contrarians should be combing the Latin American lists after the Mexican debacle. Chile? Sound; but a 23 p/e ratio is off-putting. Mexico at half that? A gamble. But Argentina, down about 25 per cent in recent months and trading on a 14.5 p/e? That looks interesting both on contrarian and value grounds. If you get the point, you can take it from there.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Investors should shop around to find the 'ethical' fund that meets their needs

Mastering the moral investment maze

Henderson Touche Remnant will swell the ranks of ethical investment funds on Monday when it launches its new Ethical unit trust.

Kate Murphy, the fund manager, says that her research shows that investors want to know precisely what sort of companies to avoid while at the same time making a positive statement about what they believe in. She explains: "We won't, for example, invest in alcohol producers, but we may want to include supermarkets, which almost inevitably will have an alcohol section. But consumers or investors in the fund have a choice then. If they don't approve of it they do not have to buy alcohol."

The ethical tag, however, has become a loose, and perhaps inappropriate, term that can apply just as easily to a fund investing in environmentally friendly companies as one that applies much stricter criteria and expressly forbids investment in any companies associated with tobacco, alcohol, oppressive regimes and armaments. And even when you think you have found the perfect company … you may be forced to think again. Witness Body Shop. Last August, an American magazine report triggered a debate on just how ethical and enviromentally friendly Anita Roddick's company was. Most fund managers concluded that the criticisms did not stack up and they stayed with the shares.

Peter Webster, executive secretary of the Ethical Investment Research Service (Eiris), which provides a screening service, says: "If you are interested in ethical investment you can't start off with the premise that just because a fund carries an ethical label it must be good or right for you. You must ask for a clear statement of the fund's aims, which should be immediately forthcoming."

Pat Meehan, a partner of Holden Meehan, a firm of independent financial advisers, offering a free "Independent Guide to Ethical and Green Investment Funds", says: "We take the mission statement from each fund and then distil it down to a simple table which shows the emphasis of the individual funds, be it green or ethical. What we often find, however, is that some investors have not looked properly at the market and they have just taken the first fund that came along which might not match their specific values."

From a standing start, ten years ago, when Friends Provident tested the water with its Stewardship funds, the ethical sector is worth £15 billion.

There are now 18 unit trusts as well as pension funds. The investment trust movement has been much slower to embrace the concept and only Commercial Union, Jupiter International and Friends Provident, offer them. As the Micropal performance figures show, ethical unit trusts have more or less matched the performance of the average unit trust.

☐ *Further information: Holden Meehan: 01272 252874. Eiris: 0171-735 1351.*

ROBERT MILLER

HOW TRUSTS HAVE PERFORMED

End date Start date	16.1.95 3.1.94	16.1.95 1.1.92	16.1.95 1.1.88	Sector
Eagle Star Env Opps	90.81 1	132.49 6	—	UK Eq Gro
CIS Environ	90.39 2	135.16 3	—	Internat
Acorn Ethical	89.58 3	140.49 1	—	Internat
Fr Prov Stwrdship Inc	89.44 4	140.22 2	163.61 5	UK Eq Inc
Cr Suisse Fellowship	89.18 5	136.79 4	128.93 7	UK Eq Gro
Allchurches Amity	87.49 6	119.95 14	—	UK Eq Gro
Fr Prov Stwrdship	86.79 7	130.26 8	161.16 6	UK Eq Gro
NM Conscience	86.74 8	121.02 13	168.94 4	UK Eq Gro
TSB Env'l Investor	86.69 9	123.50 11	—	UK Eq Gro
Jupiter Ecology	86.14 10	134.16 5	—	Internat
Fr Prov Stwrds N Am	85.66 11	131.32 7	203.18 2	North Amer
NPI Global Care	85.55 12	126.72 9	—	Internat
Scot Equit Ethical	85.13 13	119.48 15	—	UK Eq Gro
Abbey Ethical	84.52 14	121.38 12	179.86 3	UK Eq Gro
Framl'ton Health	83.60 15	106.84 17	327.62 1	Internat
Cler'l Med Evergreen	82.77 16	124.24 10	—	Internat
Abtrust Ethical	82.19 17	—	—	Internat
Sovereign Ethical	82.04 18	108.48 16	—	UK Eq Gro
Sector Average	86.38	126.86	190.48	
Average For all UTs	87.82	137.21	189.41	

Performances show value of £100 invested on an offer to bid price basis with net income reinvested. Figures in bold show relative positions *Source: Micropal*

THE ENVIRONMENTAL PICTURE LIBRARY

Investors may find many aspects of ethical funds they would wish to discard

Airways trust takes off

A unit trust that specialises in buying homes within earshot of a busy international airport may not immediately spring to mind as the most attractive investment opportunity. But that is the deal on offer to investors in a new property trust launched today by Airways Unit Trust Managers (AUTM).

AUTM is an offshoot of Airways Housing Society (AHS), a housing association that has specialised in providing homes for airport workers and airline employees for the past 50 years. Hence the location of the properties.

According to Derek Joseph, director of financial services, the Airways Unit Trust is for people seeking a "relatively secure investment growing roughly in line with inflation".

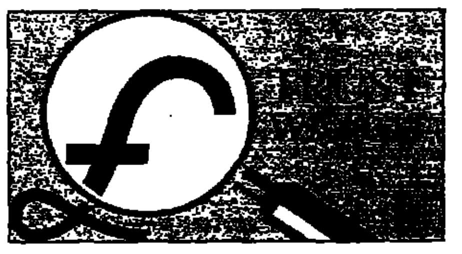
It plans to cash in on an expected boom in civil aviation, he says, with Heathrow alone tipped to double passenger traffic by 2016. This should boost demand for well-located homes for staff.

Capital growth will depend on property price performance and the yield on rental income. In the first year, the managers project a gross income return of 4.5 per cent. But the initial charge is on the high side, at 5.5 per cent. The annual charge is 1 per cent.

The minimum investment is £500, or £50 a month into a savings plan. If you invest £2,000, you will be rewarded with 100 Air Miles. Each additional £1,000 investment nets an extra 50 miles. If you are keen enough to fork out £9,000, you will secure enough for a free trip to Paris. *For details, call 0800 210248.*

LIZ DOLAN

New units seeking new money



There are three ways for investment groups to pull in new money. They can dust off an old trust and give it a new marketing persona; they can top the performance charts regularly or, they can launch a new trust. An added twist is to use the tax-free personal equity plan incentive.

Some newcomers aim to keep up with changing investment aims such as higher income or, like Henderson Touche Remnant's new Ethical unit trust, also Pepable, one designed to capitalise on an existing speciality. HTR already manages £150 million of ethical money.

But the more specialised the trust, the harder it is to achieve the maximum spread of risk. HTR's Kate Murphy points out that only 26 of Britain's top 100 companies meet her ethical criteria. Lower down the scale, however, she says there are some 400 companies out of the 746 listed in the FTA-All share index to choose from.

Of the other new launches Clerical Medical's Extra Income trust (0800 373369) will take advantage of the new corporate bond Pep rules which will apply around the start of the new tax year on April 6. The estimated initial yield is 6 per cent, rising to 8 per cent in April. The minimum investment is £1,000.

Morgan Grenfell's new UK Growth unit trust (0800 282465) is also linked to a Pep and has a minimum investment of £1,000 (£25 a month). The Prudential's new Pep (0800 000000) is linked to five growth orientated trusts from its existing stable of funds.

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**Source: Schroders, income for fund accounting year 1993/4, income for fund accounting year 1979/80 and the total income for each fund accounting year since 1979/80 (i.e. assuming an investment in June 1979).*

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*Source: FT 1.1.95. **Five year return 141%.

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BRIEFINGS

Significant differences in underlying charges emerge in a survey of life and pensions policies carried out by *Money Marketing* magazine. For instance, Scottish Life reckons that its expenses over the life of a ten-year, with-profits pension plan (£50 monthly premium) will be £434 on a projected maturity value of £8,512. Commercial Union, on the other hand, projects expenses of £1,806 and a £7,140 maturity value. On a 25-year, unit-linked mortgage repayment plan, again with a £50 monthly premium, Scottish Amicable projects charges of £5,857 over the life of the policy and a maturity value of £33,600. Commercial Union, again the most expensive, projects £12,857 charges and a £26,600 maturity value.

☐ Interest rates on a new capped-rate mortgage offer from the Principality Building Society are guaranteed not to rise above 7.5 per cent until January 31, 1997. For borrowers of less than 80 per cent of property value, the rate is capped at 7.25 per cent. All applicants have to pay a non-returnable fee of £150.

☐ The Newcastle Building Society has reacted to intense competition in the household insurance market by cutting buildings insurance premiums by up to one fifth, and introducing various concessions on contents policies. For instance, there are 10 per cent discounts for approved security fittings and for the over-50s, plus no-claims discounts starting next year.

Tony Hetherington reports on the Dominion of Melchizedek

Bank wary of offshore licences

PETER TRIEVNOR

The London offices of Canam Pacific Management, near Tower Bridge.

Bank of England officials have expressed concern at the activities of a London company which is offering offshore banking licences for $15,000 each.

Many are issued in the name of the mysterious Dominion of Melchizedek, a state without territory, although it has laid claim to various uninhabited islands in the Pacific and a slice of the Antartic. It also claims ancient authority over Jerusalem, although it does concede that "Jerusalem is cross-claimed by Israel and the PLO". Pearlasia, a woman living in California describes herself as Melchizdeck's president.

Several of the licences are in names which clearly imply a connection with the United Kingdom — but none is authorised by the Bank of England, which fears they could be used in connection with fraud or to take deposits from the public illegally.

The advantages offered to buyers of the licences include "no qualification requirements, no taxes or treaties, total anonymity", and the ability to control a bank through nominee directors, leaving the true owner's identity a secret.

The London company, Canam Pacific Management Limited, which uses an address near Tower Bridge, claims to hold licences for the Wales Bank & Trust Company, the Manchester Bank & Trust Company, and the Cambridge Merchant Bank. Also on offer are the Sterling Bank, the Guardian Commerce Bank, and the Geneva Merchant Bank. Canam Pacific Management says all the banks were set up in 1991.

The company says: "Specific powers authorise them to function as a commercial or merchant bank. Licence fees are paid until February 21, 1995. There are no assets, liabilities or pending lawsuits."

A Bank of England spokesman said: "All institutions which want to accept deposits from the public in the UK need authorisation from the Bank of England. We have to ensure that they have adequate capital, that they make adequate provision for bad or doubtful debts, and that they have accounting records and internal controls.

"When a bank applies for a licence it must provide us with at least three years' previous annual accounts. And there is a requirement for the bank to be directed by at least two individuals, to make sure that no one person can exert undue dominance." The Bank also investigates all directors and senior officials of UK banks.

The man behind Canam Pacific Management is a Canadian named Ron Jensen. He was not at the company's London offices, which appear to be simply a maildrop. Melchizedeck has yet to recognised by by any major nation, although the Central African Republic granted it recognition two years ago. Its "embassy" is listed as such in the Washington DC telephone directory.

The foreign minister of Melchizedek, who doubles as governor of the central bank, is a Jerusalem resident named Keem Kalfon. He said care was taken to ensure that banking licences were not sold to crooks.

"We scrutinise as much as we can," he said. "We have a method of checking it out. We are very proud of some of the licence owners. As to the rest, in God we trust! If they step out of line, we revoke their licence."

As to the choice of obviously British names for banks authorised by him, Mr Kalfon said: "Against this, you cannot do anything... This has nothing to do with the English economy or whatever. It is just that it sounds good. It is a method of marketing."

According to the United States Government, Melchizedek is the invention of a convicted fraudster named Mark Pedley. Contacted in California, Pearlasia commented, "Do you believe everything the American Government says?"

COMMENT

ANNE ASHWORTH

Personal Finance Editor

Proving ground for part-time pensions

Imagine this. You are a secretary, employed for close to 20 years at the same company. Excluded for all that period from the company pension because you were a part-timer, you have now discovered that a European Court ruling may give you the right to seek membership. In addition, you may be entitled to have your benefits backdated.

Hurrah, you think, and hurry away to do a little research. But your findings are far from encouraging. Not only is there confusion about the cut-off date for applications: but also, horror of horrors, to enforce your rights you must go before an industrial tribunal to claim sexual discrimination. Employers can bring lawyers to these quasi courts of law. You, meanwhile, will not be entitled to legal aid. If you were a member of a union, you could ask for representation, but there has never been a union at your company.

The possibility of confrontation with your bosses fills you with terror. The last thing you want is to be a nuisance. Your only wish is join the pension scheme and ward off your fears of a needy old age. This, as we report on page 30, is the prospect facing tens of thousands of part-time workers, mostly female, seeking to enforce their rights to join company pension schemes — or, to make contributions for those years they were barred from membership, although they have already gained admission.

Employers, unwilling to pay the added costs for extra pension scheme members, are preparing to contest vigorously any action. Their lawyers have reassured them that sexual discrimination is difficult to establish. The onus will lie on the part-time worker — "he who asserts must prove".

Different tribunals will come to different conclusions, leading to appeals, delays and dissatisfaction. The consequence threatens to be holiday homes in the Dordogne for lawyers, rather than a better deal in retirement for the fastest growing group of workers in the economy.

It is vital that Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, issues a policy statement on time limits for claims and streamlining procedures, so that most often an appearance before the tribunal becomes a formality, rather than a trial. Or the promise of better pensions for millions will be an empty one.

FINANCIAL TIMES

PERSONAL PENSION PLANS

How pension plans work, and what to look for

The five crucial questions

Personal pensions are designed for employees without access to a company scheme and for the self-employed. You can also use a plan to opt out of the state earnings-related pension scheme (Serps).

If you fall into one of these categories, you are part of the "target market" for life offices and those who sell their products, and are likely to find yourself at the end of a very persuasive sales process.

Since their introduction in July 1988, personal pension plans have been sold to more than 5m people, many of whom would have been better off in their company pension schemes.

With more than 100 providers in the market, clearly some will offer good value, while others will offer an unholy combination of high charges and abysmal performance. To help you through the selection process we set out five basic issues to discuss with your adviser.

■ What are the charges, and are they competitive?

■ Is the contract flexible? Can you reduce and stop contributions, transfer the fund or take early retirement without penalty?

■ Is the performance consistently good over the long term?

■ Is the provider financially sound? Will it still be there when your investment matures?

■ How much does the advice cost? Should I pay this as commission or fees?

FINANCIAL TIMES WEEKEND DECEMBER 31/JANUARY 1 1995

THE FIVE CRUCIAL ANSWERS

■ CHARGES

In a survey of regular contribution with-profits personal pension plans, the Society was shown to have the lowest charges of all the companies surveyed. The effect of some other companies' charges is more than *half as much again*.

Source: Money Marketing Survey 10 year with-profits personal pension plans, £100pm contribution - 19 January 1995

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Source: Money Marketing FPR With-Profits Survey 1994

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The international rating agency, Standard and Poor, when confirming the Society's AA rating said:

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صكنا من الاهل

Sara McConnell says thousands may miss industrial tribunal cut-off date

Part-timers must hurry for pension benefits

Millions of part-time workers could lose their chance to join their employer's pension scheme and get benefits backdated if they do not move quickly to put in their claims to an industrial tribunal. Unions and other equal opportunities campaigners believe the cut-off date could be the end of March.

The European Court threw employers into a panic last September when it ruled that companies could be guilty of indirect sex discrimination if they did not allow part-time workers — the vast majority of whom are women — to join occupational pension schemes. On top of this, part-timers could apply to have their pension benefits backdated to April 8, 1976, the date of an earlier European judgment, if they could afford to pay their share of contributions. Although more pension schemes have started admitting part-timers since the late 1980s, people have not been able to backdate claims for benefits.

Now trade unions and the Equal Opportunities Commission are urging people to get their claims registered quickly at an industrial tribunal, because no one knows which British laws will be used to decide a cut-off point for claims. Campaigners fear that clauses in the Pensions Bill, which receives its second reading in the House of Lords on Tuesday, are likely to confuse matters further.

The European Court made it clear that the length of time part-time workers would have to claim against their employer would depend on each country's existing or similar laws. Britain has no legal time limits on part-timers claiming pension rights but it does have various laws dealing with sex discrimination, equal pay and breach of trust, which set time limits of anything between three months and 12 years for claims. It is up to industrial tribunals to decide which laws apply. No cases have yet been heard. Even then, a decision made by one industrial tribunal is not binding on another.

An added complication is that no one knows when the clock starts running. In theory, tribunals could argue that people should have known since 1986 that they could make a claim for sex discrimination, after a ruling in that year in the European Court. This would shut out a large number of people because their limits would have run out (see box below).

The GMB, the third largest union, played safe and sent out more than 100,000 leaflets to part-time workers advising them to put in claims before Christmas. Bifu, the banking and finance union, says that between 3,000 and 4,000 members have lodged applications. John Robinson, the union's research officer, says: "Employers have been very obstructive. But we are telling people not to rely on this and to put in claims."

The EOC, which has received about 400 calls since October, also advises people to continue to put in claims, although the first possible cut-off date has passed.

CAN YOU STILL CLAIM?

YOU may not get as far as a tribunal hearing if you are out of time on your claim. How long you have depends on your circumstances, lawyers believe, although this has yet to be tested.

■ **If you are still working part-time for the same company** and have never been allowed to join the pension scheme, this would be continuing discrimination and time would not even have started ticking away. Mark Grant of solicitors McKenna and Co says: "If denial of access [to the scheme] is continuing, the clock will not have started yet and no claims could be defeated on grounds of being out of time."

■ **If you are still working part-time for the same company** but have since been offered the chance to join the pension scheme, time limits on claims would be calculated from the time you are offered membership and told you can backdate your credits. But until you are offered a back service credit, time may not start to run.

■ **If you have left the company you want to claim from,** your claim would normally date from when you left. But you may be able to argue that it was not clear until last September that you could backdate claims, so your claim should date from then.

Equal opportunity: Sainsburys already lets employees, including part-timers, join the company pension scheme

Putting your claim to the industrial tribunal

Write to your employer setting out your claim, mentioning the ECJ judgment. The names of the two test cases, both Dutch, are *Vroege v. NCIV Instituut voor Volkshuisvesting* and *Fisscher v Voorhuis Hengelo*. See if you can negotiate membership of the pension scheme and/or backdated credits.

■ Put in your claim to the industrial tribunal setting out your case. Tell your employer you are going to the industrial tribunal.

■ The form to submit is form IT1, from Citizens Advice Bureaux, Law Centres and jobcentres. Say you are claiming under S.1 of the Sex Discrimination Act and/or S.1 of the Equal Pay Act 1970 and/or Article 119 of the Treaty of Rome.

■ Whatever time limits, tribunals have the power to hear claims out of time when they consider it "just and equitable."

What will happen at the tribunal?

■ Your application will be registered at the Central Office of Industrial Tribunals at Bury St Edmunds.

■ You will get 14 days' notice of the hearing. In the meantime, you may be asked for more details. Your employer may also be asked. You should get copies of anything your employer supplies.

■ You can represent yourself or be represented. If you are a member of a trade union, ask if they can supply a lawyer. You cannot get legal aid.

■ The tribunal will be presided over by a chairman and two members. The decision will be by majority vote.

■ You will have to show that you have been the victim of indirect sexual discrimination by being barred from your employer's pension scheme. This means you will have to show that significantly more women (or, less likely, men) in the company were employed part-time and that therefore discrimination against part-timers effectively meant discrimination against women (or men). It is not enough simply to have been part-time.

■ Even if the tribunal agrees there was indirect sexual discrimination, you employer may win by arguing that there was an objective reason for it. He could argue that administering part-time pensions would be too expensive for example.

■ If the decision goes against you and you can produce new evidence in support of your claim, you have 14 days to ask for a review. If you want to appeal on a point of law you have 42 days to take your case to the Employment Appeals Tribunal.

■ If all this is unnerving, still claim. The Equal Opportunities Commisson believes a sample of test cases may be chosen to establish a ruling, making it unlikely for you to endure a separate hearing.

Second chance for Mrs Rack

It was a local newspaper story which alerted Bea Rack to the possibility that she might be able to claim backdated pension rights from the frozen food firm she had worked for part-time for 21 years.

Like many part-timers, initially she had not been allowed to join the company's pension scheme, despite working a regular 20-hour week. When the company revised its policy in 1986, it was too late for Mrs Rack, who was about to take early retirement because of her husband's ill health. "I didn't bother to join because I didn't think it was worth it," she said.

After seeing the newspaper article urging people to apply before the end of 1994 for backdated pension rights, she decided to act.

Encouraged by her union, the GMB, she put in her claim to the industrial tribunal in the second week of December — one of 30,000 people who have deluged the Central Office of Industrial Tribunals with claims.

Like many other schemes, her company's was contributory, which means she will have to find her share of backdated contributions. She believes it will be worth it if she gets a better pension at the end of it.

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Heavy price of surrender

Jill Insley on the case of a former director whose early retirement could prove costly

THE IMAGE BANK

Feeling the squeeze of a curtailed pension contract

A former company director faces the loss of £50,000 because he wants to take early retirement to finance his divorce settlement.

John Matthews (not his real name) wants to draw on the funds in the executive pension plan he took out with London and Manchester in 1986. Although Mr Matthews has accumulated a pension fund of £228,000, the insurance company will offer him only £177,000 on his early retirement. The pension contract was intended to run until Mr Matthews reached the age of 65 in 15 years' time.

Mr Matthews is understandably disappointed. "I'm not taking this money out on a whim to spend," he says. "I would love to leave the money where it is until the end of the policy."

London and Manchester says it has deducted the £50,000 from Mr Matthews as a penalty for his breaking the contract. The company even claims the penalty includes some of the outstanding costs of setting up and running the pension policy. But this comes on top of £17,300 it deducted to cover its expenses in the early years of the policy.

Laurence Smith, marketing director for London and Manchester, agrees that the penalty is huge, but says that the insurance company is still out of pocket for commission paid to Mr Matthews's financial adviser.

Although the company deducted £17,300 in charges, it paid commission of £26,000, leaving a shortfall of £9,000. Mr Smith says the effects of inflation will have increased this amount to about £29,000 today. The extra £22,000 of the penalty covers London and Manchester's own costs for setting up and administering the policy.

Mr Smith's assurance that the size of the penalty was calculated according to an actuarial formula can be of no comfort to Mr Matthews. Mr Smith says that London and Manchester cannot waive the penalty for Mr Matthews without harming the interest of other investors who maintain their pensions until their intended maturity.

This case is a graphic illustration of the hidden costs of pension and other insurance policies. For many years, few investors had any idea how much they stood to lose if a change of circumstances forced them to cancel their policies early.

At last this situation is beginning to change. Rules introduced this month are forcing insurers to reveal their commissions and charges. Investors will see how much they will get back if they cancel their contract before maturity.

Under the present system policyholders pay the same percentage of their investment for charges and commission, regardless of whether they pay premiums of £30 or £30,000.

Mr Smith admits that policyholders like Mr Matthews, who are paying large premiums, are subsidising smaller policyholders. He says: "Larger premiums should not be treated as standard cases. Product design needs to allow for fee-based advice and fee-based service from the insurance companies which is more suitable for the bigger policies. This is not unusual in the corporate market now. Unfortunately in 1986 no one was doing it this way."

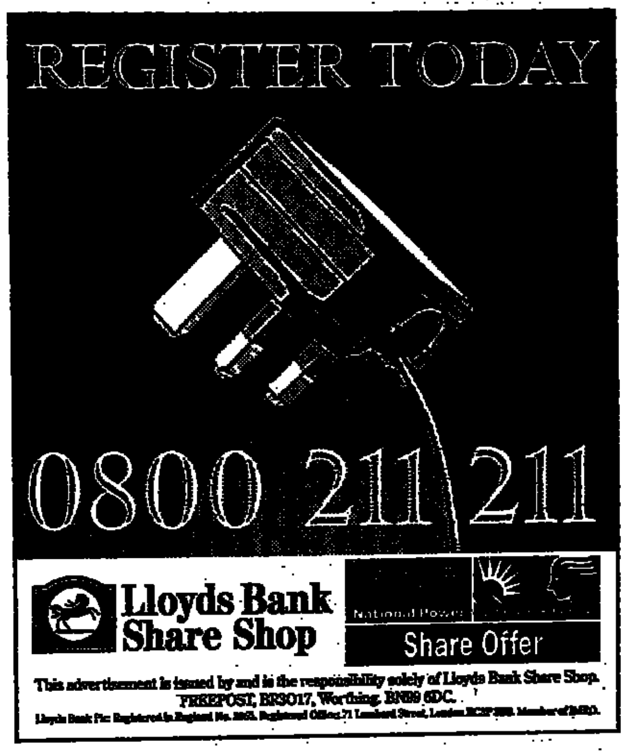
Mr Matthews is a chartered accountant who used to run a computer company. He originally took out the pension when he borrowed money from London and Manchester to buy a property in Covent Garden, central London. The pension scheme was presented as a tax-efficient way of paying off the mortgage.

Things started to go wrong for Mr Matthews five years ago when his property investments were ruined by the recession.

When his bankers called in their loans, his computer firm collapsed and he was forced into bankruptcy. This disqualified him from working as an accountant. He stopped putting money into the pension policy in 1990 after paying just four premiums.

London and Manchester repossessed the Covent Garden property and subsequently sold it at a loss of £50,000 — coincidentally the same amount that Mr Matthews will lose on his pension.

Mr Laurence says London and Manchester's loss on the loan had no bearing on the calculation of Mr Matthews's early retirement fund. He says: "We would settle the two transactions separately."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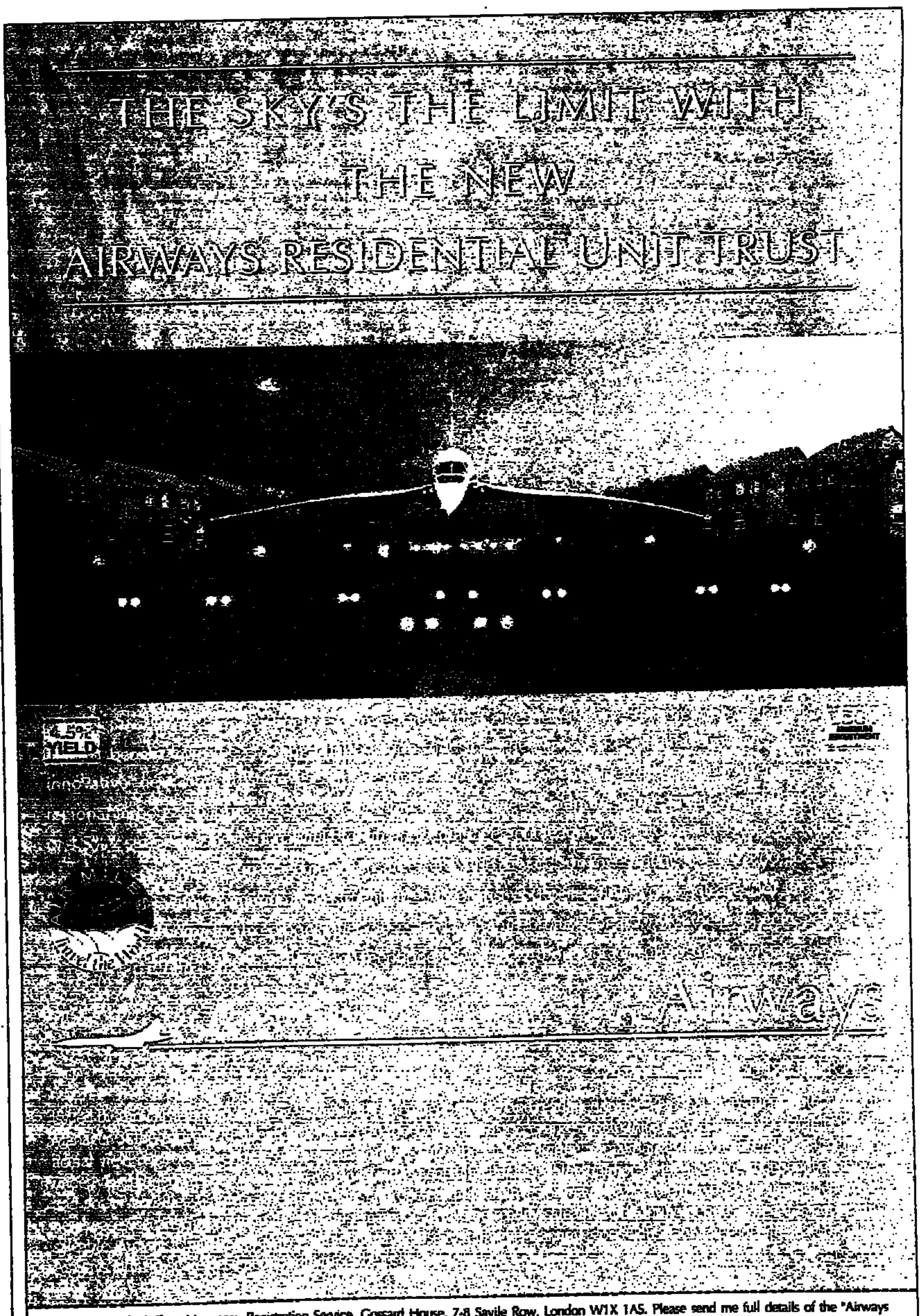

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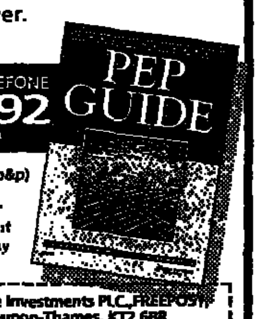

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Budget now for a painless retirement

Christopher Wicks says time spent now will pay big dividends in later years

IMAGE BANK

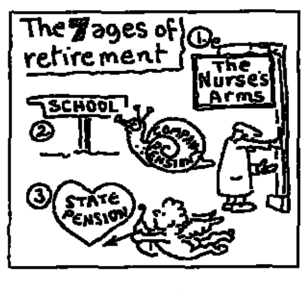
Ageing world: men, on average, are living to 73 and women to 79, so planning your pension early is important

When you retire you can expect to live on for at least a decade and probably more, particularly if you are a woman. In 1901 the average male was expected to live to about 45 and the average female to about 49.

Today the equivalents are about 73 and 79 respectively. Ten years or more is a long time to live in poverty, so planning your retirement finances well before you actually stop work is an important priority.

Everyone's circumstances *differ but retirement planning* can basically be broken down into eight stages.

■ Work out how much income you need
You can do this by using a budget checklist. The purpose of the checklist is to work out how much income you need from investments. Exclude any regular savings as they will only amount to a recycling of investment income.



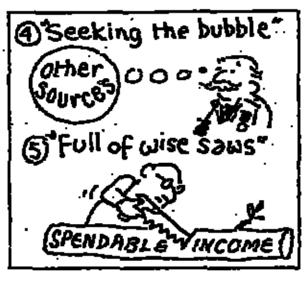
■ Get details of your company or personal pensions.
Most people's largest asset is their pension and there will be a range of options when you retire. For example, you must choose whether to take tax-free cash. If you have a personal pension, you have to choose what type of annuity to buy. This pays a fixed income for life and you have to use part of your fund to buy the annuity.

■ Get details of the state pension.
You qualify for a state pension at 65 if you are a man and 60 if you are a woman. You must have paid a certain amount in National Insurance Contributions to get a full pension. If you have not, you may be able to make additional contributions to improve your pension. You can get a forecast of benefits by completing form BR19 and returning it to the DSS. The forecast will also show your scope for additional contributions.

■ Work out your income *from other sources*
This could include consultancy fees or payments for continuing part-time work. You should take into account how long this will last in future.

■ Calculate joint net spendable income and compare it with spending needs
The aim of this is to work out whether you have a shortfall or excess over your income requirement. As husbands and wives are taxed separately, you will need to make individual calculations. But it is the joint net income which needs to be established. If you are married and one of you is *retiring* before state pension age, you will need to calculate net income for each stage. Then compare joint income with budgeted expenditure to see if you need investment income. The calculations will also establish the husband and wife's tax status. If one spouse has no income, investment could be made to use up his or her personal allowance (currently £3,445).

■ Assess your capital *position*
This should be done both when you retire and in the future, taking into account any maturing investments at a later date. You should set aside enough to meet any short-term big expenses and the balance will be available for investment.

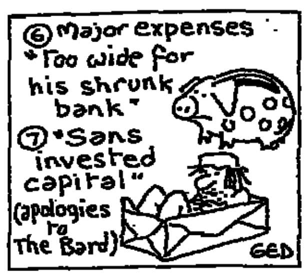


■ Invest the capital
The selection of investment will depend on your attitude to risk, how long you wish to invest for, how much income *you require and your tax* position. Broadly speaking the capital can be divided into three main portions:

☐ A cash reserve to cater for short-term requirements and emergencies. This will mainly consist of bank and building society deposit accounts.

☐ *Investment* to generate a high income. You may not need this if you already have more income than you spend.

☐ Finally, investments for capital growth and a rising income. The main objective of *this is to* counter the effects of inflation to make sure that your capital's purchasing power is maintained in the future.



■ Regular reviews
When you retire, your plans can only be based upon what you think your circumstances will be in retirement. But your life style could alter considerably, so you need to review your plans regularly to make sure they continue to meet your requirements.

When selecting investment, you should:

☐ Seek independent advice to ensure that you have access to the widest possible range of investments.

☐ *Set aside* sufficient cash to meet short-term liabilities.

☐ Secure your requirements for income.

☐ Don't forget the effects of inflation. It may be only just above 2.5 per cent now, but in the past it has exceeded 20 per cent. Future inflation is difficult to predict, but high inflation eats into savings and *reduces their purchasing power.* Any plans should therefore ensure that inflation is allowed for.

☐ Ensure you have a spread of investment.

☐ And above all ... don't be too greedy. If an investment provides a very high income, question how it achieves this.

Christopher Wicks is a member of the Society of Financial Advisers and is personal financial planning manager at King St Financial Services.

BRIEFINGS

ProShare, the organisation that promotes wider share ownership, has published two new guides for investors. One shows prospective National *Power and* PowerGen shareholders how to chose a share shop, and explains the ins and outs of the current Genco offer. The other takes readers through the main features of a company's annual report and accounts, showing them what to look for, and how to interpret the information. "Choosing and Using a Share *Shop" normally costs* £1.95, and "An Introduction to Annual Reports and Accounts" £1.25, including postage and packing. *Readers of The Times* pay a special combined price of £1.95 for both. Send a cheque, payable to ProShare (UK) Ltd, to: *Times* Special Offer, PO Box 1, Hastings TN35 4SE, or ring 01424 755755 or 0171-600 0984, 9am-5pm, and pay by credit card.

☐ Barclays Stockbrokers is offering Air Miles to all new and existing clients of its advisory and portfolio services, and holders of its personal equity plans. Every full £10 commission payment nets one mile. Details on: 0800 551177.

☐ A new three-year, fixed rate bond from Britannia Building Society pays 6.56 per cent net a year (8.75 per cent gross), or 6.3 per cent net monthly. Minimum investment is £2,000, maximum £500,000. Ring 0800 269655

☐ The Alliance & Leicester Building Society has confirmed its intention of setting up a life and unit trust company in early 1996. As a result, the society is ending its tie with Scottish Amicable, which it has operated since 1989. But ScotAm may still provide third-party services.

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Small IFAs are under threat, unless they unite

Join the advice network

Many small firms of independent financial advisers (IFAs) are expected to go to the wall in the next few years, as their cash flow gives up the struggle with commissions disclosure and compensation for pension transfers.

Kit Jebens, who recently left the Personal Investment Authority, the new regulator, predicts that the number of IFAs will halve within the next 18 months, while one big life company said that they expect one and two-man firms to be "eradicated" within three years.

Already, thousands of people seeking compensation for being badly advised to transfer from their company pension scheme can expect to find the firm that advised them is no longer in business, and they must instead approach the new pensions unit being set up by the PIA.

One option for investors worried about using a small IFA is to go to a firm within a network, such as DBS or Countrywide. IFAs become appointed representatives of the network, which offer computer and other support — and compensation for investors if the IFA goes bust — in return for a cut of the firm's income.

Networks have gained hundreds of new recruits in recent months. However, there is the question of how financially sound some of the smaller networks are. The PIA set a solvency threshold last March, requiring each network to have funds equal to (very roughly) £10,000, plus one-quarter of turnover. Not all the networks could meet this target and the PIA has now given them until July. In the meantime, the requirement is £10,000 plus just 8 per cent of turnover.

Perhaps an even more important issue is the quality of advice. The networks argue that they can keep a tight rein on advice, but this control is not always as good as they would like. DBS, the biggest network, has more than 1,300 member firms, and has paid out more than £3.5 million compensation for bad advice given by its members on home income plans.

Another issue is the question of commission bias. Commission from sales is paid direct to the network, which takes a set percentage before passing the rest to the IFA. Networks can use their bulk-buying power to negotiate high commissions from product providers and, in some cases, recruit new IFA members because of this. So, each network has a clear financial incentive to ensure its members earn the maximum amount up front, rather than, for example, spreading the commission throughout the life of the policy (which significantly improves the early cash-in value and can enhance the maturity value).

Will Hastings, of the PIA, which should ensure that IFAs give best advice, says simply that "they must recommend a suitable product — commission is a matter for the firms concerned".

Ken Davy, chairman of DBS, says: "While we don't ignore the fact that our members have to generate income, higher commission has never been a factor for IFAs joining our network."

JEAN EAGLESHAM

FINANCIAL ADVISERS ANONYMOUS
WHAT'S A DAY WITH F.A?
I knew I was licked the first time I took my own advice
GED

Quest for financial guide has pitfalls for unwary

Finding the right financial adviser is as tricky as the search for a spouse. The failure to ascertain certain essential details about the other party before embarking on a relationship may mean that the affair ends in tears.

The first trap in the way of the unwary is discerning the crucial difference between independent advisers — who can provide guidance on the whole investment and pension marketplace — and salesmen (aka tied agents), who deal only in the products of one company. They include "consultants" in bank branches.

Independent financial advisers are required to disclose their status in the terms of business letter given to the client before the first meeting. From May 1, this requirement will be extended to salesmen. They will also be obliged to make clear their status on signs at their premises.

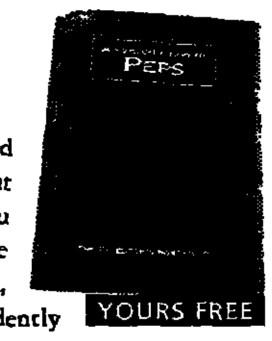
In the past, some advisers liked to give the appearance of providing their services free. In reality, their remuneration came from the sums invested by their clients. However, under the new disclosure regime that came into effect this month, advisers must now tell you how much commission they will earn, in pounds and pence.

Before the change, an increasing number of firms had begun to charge fees, instead of taking commission. The commission is either rebated to the client, or added to the investment.

Lists of advisers can be obtained from IFA Promotions (0117 971177), which provides the names of three of its member advisers in your area. Details of 850 fee-based advisers appear on *Money Management's* National Register of Fee-Based Advisers (01272 769444). Always check that any firm is properly authorised by ringing, on 0171-929 3652, the central registry of the chief watchdog, the Securities and Investments Board (SIB). It is illegal to carry on an investment business without correct authorisation.

Financial advisers were formerly regulated by Fimbra. The task has now been passed to the PIA (the Personal Investment Authority). About 2,900 firms have now had their applications to the PIA accepted. The 1,600 others still being processed remain under Fimbra's control. You should check the status of this application. Solicitors and accountants who provide financial advice are regulated by their own professional bodies. Additional indications of an adviser's suitability include membership of a body such as the Society of Financial Advisers, whose 1,200 members have passed two sets of examinations.

ANNE ASHWORTH



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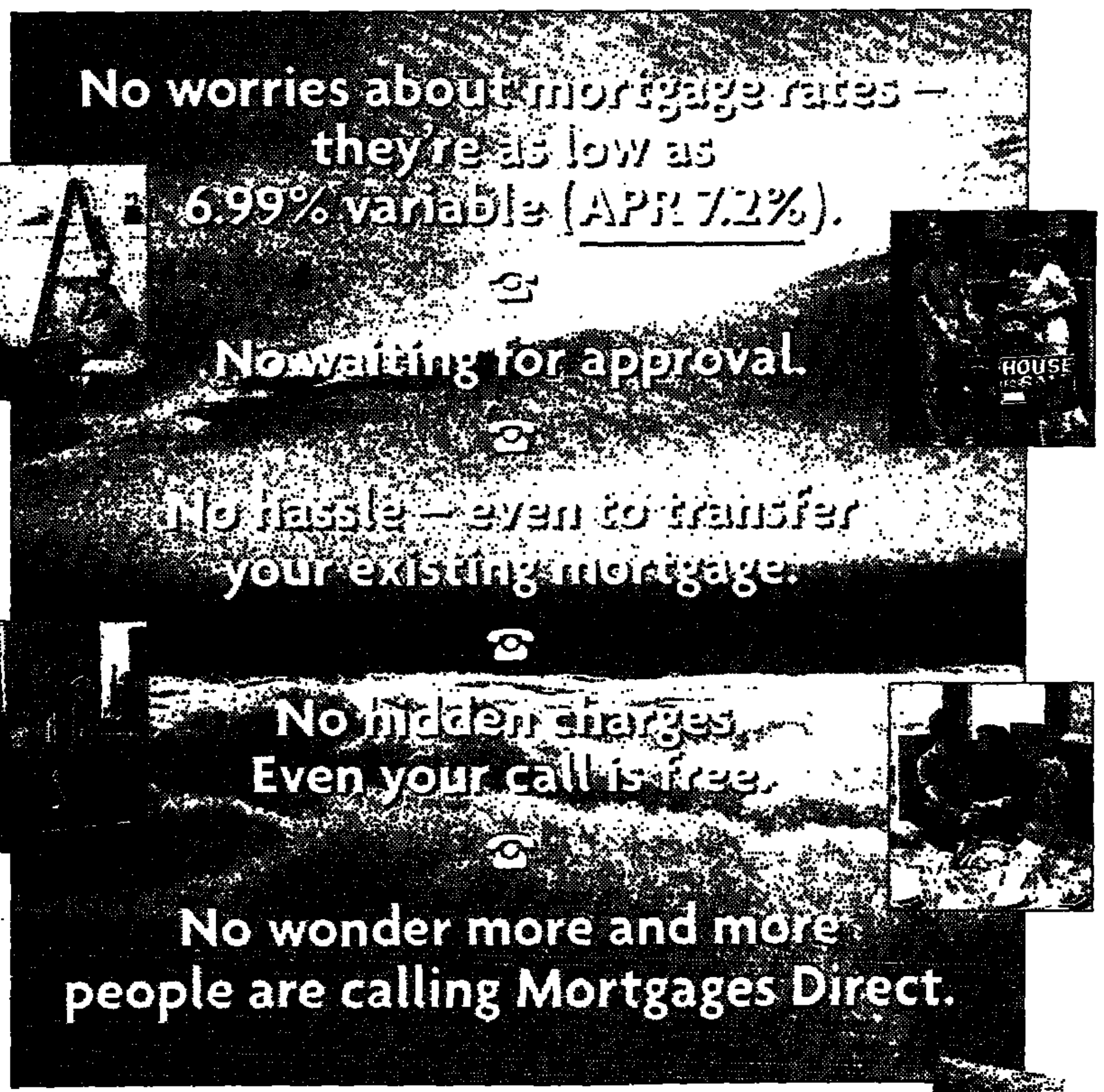
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[صكتا من الاهل]

THE TIMES MONEY INFORMATION SERVICE

Societies vie for market share

AGAINST a background of slow demand for mortgages, as displayed in the lending figures published yesterday, the building societies are ever more eager to grab whatever business they can.

To the irritation of those smaller societies which, before Christmas, raised their rates to 8.54 per cent (in the wake of the 0.5 per cent base rate rise to 6.25 per cent) the Halifax has set its rate at 8.35 per cent.

The margin may be small, but the Halifax obviously hopes that it will be enough to win new customers — and deter existing borrowers from remortgaging elsewhere. This is a sector of the market that is slightly livelier than the rest.

The wish to seize extra market share was not expressed openly by the Halifax, which gave as its reason the desire to "minimise the impact" on the housing market. The new rate applies immediatly for new borrowers and from February 1 for existing ones. The rate will take effect on April 1 for the one million Halifax Budget Plan borrowers whose rate changes once a year only.

The Leeds, the Halifax's merger partner, yesterday moved its rate from 8.14 per cent to 8.39 per cent. The Bradford & Bingley opted for 8.45 per cent, a 0.35 per cent increase. This was also the rate chosen by the National & Provincial. Nationwide borrowers will pay 8.44 per cent but the rise will not be implemented until February 13 for new borrowers and for March 1 for existing ones.

The Woolwich, which promised an announcement yesterday, has now delayed its decision until next week.

Both the Abbey National and the Cheltenham & Gloucester have declared their intention to stand firm, for the time being, against the tide of rising rates. Both expressed the view that there was, at present, no need for rate increases. The Halifax has built this increase and perhaps further rises into its forecast of a 9 per cent mortgage rate by the year end.

Ian Darby of the mortgage brokers John Charcol believes that this is the time for borrowers to fix their rates. For a selection of the best rates, see the tables opposite

To date, there has been silence from the major lenders on rates for savers. But the Halifax is likely to make its changes public next week.

ANNE ASHWORTH

INSTANT ACCESS POSTAL ACCOUNTS

	Account	Minimum Deposit £	Rate %	Interest Paid
Scarborough 0800 590578	First Post	250	5.00	Yly
Yorkshire 0800 378836	First Class Access	1,000	5.95	Yly
Brad & Bingley 01345 248248	Direct Premium	1,000	5.80	Yly
Britannia 01538 391741	Capital Trust	2,000	5.85	Yly
Chelsea 0800 717515	Classic	2,500	6.00	Yly
Britannia 01538 391741	Capital Trust	10,000	6.35	Yly
Brad & Bingley 01345 248248	Direct Premium	10,000	6.30	Yly
Northern Rock 0500 505000	Go Direct	20,000	6.90	Yly
Nationwide 0800 665511	InvestDirect	50,000	6.70	Yly
Birm Midshires 0645 720721	First Class	100,000	6.95	Yly

Source. MoneyFacts 01692 500665

Appeal of British Steel

SHARES in British Steel (151½p) are in the spotlight, after encouraging news at a dinner for brokers, held earlier this week. The company is expected to benefit from the disruption to the Japanese steel business in Kyoto. This was one of the areas badly affected by the earthquake which devastated Japan earlier this week.

It is also planning to raise the price of its steel once more this summer, following a similar rise last year. It says the increase is possible because European prices still lag behind the rest of the world.

Successful price and volume rises have increased management confidence and have already encouraged analysts to upgrade their profits forecasts. Kleinwort Benson said earlier this month that rising world demand was soaking up surplus capacity and predicted a 35 per cent increase in the dividend this year.

LIZ DOLAN

SAVERS' BEST BUYS

INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNTS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Yorkshire BS 0800 378836	1st Class Acc	Postal	£1,000	5.95	Yly
Skipton BS 01756 700511	3 High Street	Instant	£2,000	6.10	Yly
Britannia BS 01538 391741	Capital Trust	Postal	£10,000	6.35	Yly
Northern Rock BS 0500 505000	Go Direct	Instant	£20,000	6.90	Yly

FIXED RATES	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Halifax BS 01422 333333	Guaranteed Res	2yr bond	£2,000	8.10	F/Yly
Britannia BS 0800 269655	3 year Fixed	3yr bond	£2,000	8.75	F/Yly
Cooperative Bank 0800 125100	Fixed Rate Bond	3yr bond	£2,000	9.25	F/OM
Bristol & West BS 01179 294271	Fixed Rate Bond	5yr bond	£5,000	8.70	F/Mly

TESSAS (TAX FREE)	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Britannia BS 0800 269655		5 year	£8,200	9.25	F/Yly
Hinckley & Rugby BS 01455 251234		5 year	£3,000 A	7.50	Yly
Holmesdale BS 01737 245716		5 year	£1	7.40	Yly
Tipton & Coseley BS 0121 557 2551		5 year	£1	7.35	Yly

CREDIT CARDS BEST BUYS

	Card type	Interest per month	APR%	Fee per annum
Robert Fleming S&P 0800 282101	MasterCard/Visa	1.00%	14.60%	£12
Royal Bank of Scotland 01702 349393	MasterCard	1.25%	16.00%	Nil C
MBNA International 0800 062620	Mastercard/Visa	1.38%	17.90%	Nil

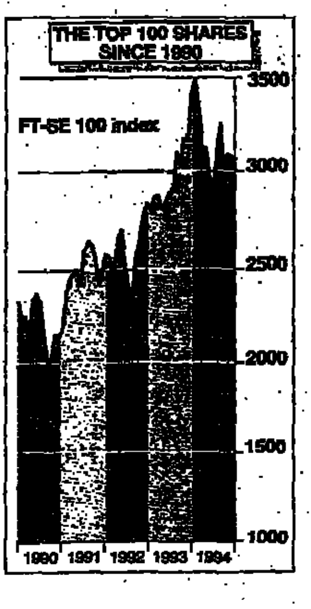
PERSONAL LOANS BEST BUYS

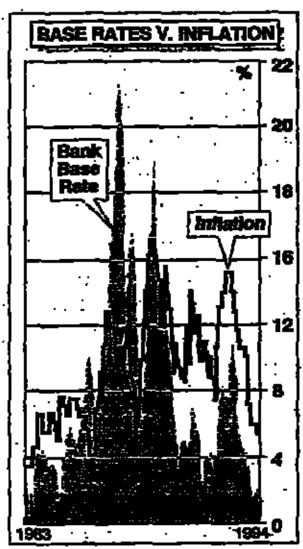
	APR	Monthly payment on £3,000 for 3yrs with insurance	no insurance
1st Trust Bank (NI) 01232 325599	12.60%	£114.28	£99.58
Midland Bank 01345 180180	15.40%	£116.54	£103.14
Abbey National 01908 680140	15.90%	£115.81	£103.77
Clydesdale Bank 0141 223 2216	16.20%	£113.94	£103.33

Nb. A - Feeder account required. In the interest paid columns, C = no interest free period D = annual fee rebated £1.5K+ charged p.a. F = fixed rate (all other rates are variable); OM denotes interest paid on maturity

* RATES SHOWN ARE GROSS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE
PLEASE CHECK RATES BEFORE INVESTING

Source: MoneyFacts, the Monthly Guide to Investment & Mortgage Rates (01692 500 665)


THE TOP 100 SHARES SINCE 1980


BASE RATES V. INFLATION

NATIONAL SAVINGS

	Gross rate	At tax rates 25%	40%	Min/maximum investment £	Notice	Contact
Ordinary A/c¹	2.00	1.50	1.20	10-10,000		010416494555
Investment A/c*	5.25	3.94	3.15	20-500	1mth	010416494555
Income Bond*	6.50	4.88	3.90	2,000-24,999	3mth	010253766151
First Opt Bond	6.40	4.80	3.84	1,000-250,000		010416362558
42nd Issue Cert†	5.85			100-10,000	8day	010913864900
Yearly Plan†	5.85			20-400/mth	14day	010913864900
Children's Bond†	7.85			25-1,000	1mth	010416362835
Gen Ext Rate	3.51					
Capital Bonds	7.75	5.81	4.65	100-250,000	8day	010416362603
8th Index Linked†	3.00			100-10,000	8day	010913864900
Pensnrs Bond S2	7.50	5.63	4.50	500-20,000	60day	010253766151

¹ first £70 (£140 jt) of int tax free, inst accs for up to £100 ² Additional hldgs up to £20,000 for reinvested proceeds †Tax free *Rates gross and vble ‡Guaranteed when held for 5 years °0.3% net bonus for £20,000+ £40,000 jt in addition to S1 holdings ³Taxable but cred in full

PENSION ANNUITIES

All figures are the gross annual annuity (£100,000 purchase), guaranteed 5 years, paid monthly in advance

SINGLE LIFE (level ann) Male:		Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Can Life	Level	£10,700	£11,850	£13,412
Royal Life	Level	£10,612	£11,737	£13,284
Stan Life	Level	£10,688	£11,732	£13,100
Prudential	Level	£10,653	£11,660	£13,017
Equit Life	Level	£10,599	£11,645	£12,984

SINGLE LIFE Female:		Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Can Life	Level	9,887	£10,707	£11,917
Royal Life	Level	£9,884	£10,705	£11,923
Prudential	Level	£9,908	£10,630	£11,694
Stan Life	Level	£9,692	£10,484	£11,600
Equitable	Level	£9,554	£10,375	£11,507

JOINT LIFE, 2/3 WIDOWS Male: (level annuity) Female:		Age 60 Age 55	Age 65 Age 60	Age 70 Age 65
Royal Life	Level	£9,437	£10,664	£10,967
Can Life	Level	£9,486	£10,125	£11,04[illegible]
Prudential	Level	£9,525	£10,083	£10,869
Stan Life	Level	£9,284	£9,896	£10,748
Equitable	Level	£9,162	£9,787	£10,644

Source: Annuity Direct (0171 375 1175)

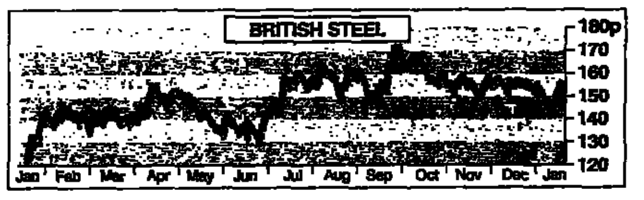
Compiled by: Joanna Durowse

PIBS

FIXED RATE	Fixed gross coupon	Buying price	Gross yield	% issue Price	Minimum purchase amount
Birmingham Midshires	9.375%	88.75	10.559	100.17	1,000
Bradford & Bingley	11.625%	112.75	10.310	100.13	10,000
Bradford & Bingley	13.000%	125.00	10.400	100.20	10,000
Bristol & West	13.375%	126.75	10.552	100.34	1,000
Britannia	13.000%	123.00	10.569	100.42	1,000
Cheltenham & Glos	11.750%	115.50	10.173	100.96	50,000
Coventry	12.125%	114.00	10.622	100.75	1,000
First National	11.750%	101.75	11.548	100.25	10,000
Halifax	8.750%	87.00	10.057	100.62	50,000
Halifax	12.000%	118.50	10.127	100.28	50,000
Leeds Permanent	13.625%	134.50	10.130	100.00	50,000
Leeds & Holbeck	13.375%	126.25	10.594	100.23	1,000
Newcastle	10.750%	101.13	10.630	100.32	1,000
Newcastle	12.625%	119.75	10.543	100.45	1,000
Northern Rock	12.625%	120.25	10.499	100.14	1,000
Skipton	12.875%	120.25	10.707	100.48	1,000

FLOATING RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	Issue Price	Minimum purchase amount
First National	8.9875%	101.00	100.00	1,000
Cheshire	8.8854%	103.00	100.00	1,000

PIBS are permanent interest-bearing shares   Source: Hoare Govett - 0171 601 0101


BRITISH STEEL

LARGER LENDERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Britannia 0800 526350	2.85	£40k+	80	5.29% discount to 2.1.96
Leeds Permanent 01532 438181	3.14	neg	95	5%-3mnths,3%-3 mnths,1%-12mth
Northern Rock 0800 591 500	2.49	to £150k	90	6.05% discount to 1.3.96
Banks				
Abbey National 0800 555100	3.34	neg	60	4.75% discount to 29.2.96
NatWest Home Loans 0121 234 8013	3.35	£120k+	75	4.75% discount for 1 year

LARGER LOANS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Hinckley & Rugby 01455 251234	1.50	to £150k	60	Rate fixed to 1.11.95
Skipton 0800 590545	1.89	to £250k	95	6% disc-6 mnths 2% disc-1 year
Yorkshire 01274 740740	1.70	£25-£150k	95	Rate fixed to 1.10.95
Banks				
Bank of Ireland 01734 605000	2.95	£20-£210k	90	5.10% discount to 1.2.96
Bank of Scotland 031 523 7087	2.99	£30-£200k	95	Fixed rate for 6 months

FIRST TIME BUYERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Ntnl & Prvncl 0800 808080	1.75	neg	90	Rate fixed to 1.10.95
Scarborough 0800 590547	1.75	£35-£150k	95	6.89% disc for 6 months
Skipton 0800 590545	1.89	to £150k	95	6%-6 months then 2% for 1 year
Banks				
B of Ireland 01734 393393	3.95	£30-£80k	95	After 4.10% disc to 1.2.96
Lloyds local branch	3.35	£60K+	95	4.75% discount for 1 year

Larger lenders, larger loans and first-time buyers tables supplied by Blay's Guides Ltd. Further information: Blay's Guides, 01753 880482.

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UNIT-LINKED INSURANCE

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE				
Aegon House, Lanark Square, London E14 9XS 071 538 8800				
Balanced	444.30	470.20	- 1.40	...
UK Equity	553.40	585.70	- 2.40	...
Property	484.80	513.10	+ 0.70	...
Fixed Interest	309.30	327.40	+ 0.90	...
Money	252.20	266.90	+ 0.20	...
International	368.80	390.30	- 2.20	...
ABBEY LIFE				
Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth BH8 8AL 0202 292373				
Property Fd Inc	278.50	293.20	+ 0.10	...
-do- Acc	526.10	553.80	+ 0.10	...
Equity Fd Inc	161.00	169.50	- 1.00	0.0
-do- Acc	214.70	226.10	- 1.20	0.0
Selective Fd	480.50	505.80	- 0.40	0.0
Money Fd	379.20	399.20	+ 0.30	...
Prop Fd Ser 4	410.30	431.90	- 0.10	...
Equity Ser 4	208.00	219.00	- 0.90	...
Man Ser 4	644.00	677.90	- 3.70	0.0
Conv Ser 4	329.90	347.30	+ 0.30	...
Money Ser 4	329.50	346.90	+ 0.20	...
Fixed Int Ser 4	339.30	357.20	+ 1.00	0.0
American Ser 4	473.20	498.20	+ 0.50	0.0
High Inc Ser 4	654.60	689.10	- 5.90	0.0
Indexed Inv Ser 4	206.30	217.20	+ 0.70	0.0
Japan Ser 4	344.20	362.40	-16.50	0.0
ALBANY LIFE				
3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ 0707 42311				
Equity Fd Acc	£14.73	£15.50	- 3.90	...
European Fd Acc	353.70	372.30	+ 0.90	...
Fixed Int Acc	492.80	518.70	+ 0.10	...
Gtd Money Acc	336.00	353.70	+ 0.30	...
Intl Managed Acc	575.80	606.00	- 1.60	...
Int Fxd Int Acc	313.70	330.20	+ 0.10	...
Japan Fund	266.00	280.00	-12.30	...
N American Acc	308.70	324.90	+ 1.40	...
Prop Fd Acc	445.80	469.20	+ 0.50	...
Multiple Inv Acc	986.60	£10.38	- 4.20	...
ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE				
Swindon SN1 1EL 0793 514514				
Fxd Int Dep Acc	374.00	393.70	+ 0.20	...
Equity Acc	£13.44	£14.15	-15.70	...
Property Acc	583.50	614.30	- 0.50	...
Far East Acc	290.30	305.50	- 9.10	...
Managed Capital	508.30	535.10	- 4.90	...
-do- Acc	£10.45	£11.00	- 9.80	...
Overseas Acc	890.50	937.40	- 7.50	...
Gilt Edged Acc	474.90	499.90	+ 0.50	...
Amer Equity Acc	736.80	775.60	- 0.70	...
Amer Man Acc	315.20	331.80	- 0.50	...
Amer Prop Acc	115.30	121.40	- 0.60	...
AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE				
Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks 0494 463463				
Reserve Ser 6	157.00	165.20	+ 0.10	...
Balcd Ser 6	682.30	718.20	- 4.40	...
Opportunity Ser 6	153.10	161.10	- 0.80	...
Distribution Ser 6	98.10	103.30	+ 0.10	6.98
UK Equities Ser 6	926.40	975.10	- 4.90	...
Higher Inc Ser 6	£10.04	£10.57	- 6.60	...
North Amer Ser 6	428.20	450.70	- 0.10	...
Far East Ser 6	526.40	554.10	-23.30	...
Europe Ser 6	352.60	371.10	+ 0.90	...
Intnl Ser 6	527.00	554.70	-13.50	...
Property Ser 6	578.40	609.00	+ 0.60	...
Fixed Int Ser 6	426.10	448.50	+ 0.60	...
Ind-Lnkd Sec S6	176.40	185.60	+ 0.50	...
Gteed Dep Ser 6	297.30	312.90	+ 0.20	...
BARCLAYS LIFE				
252 Romford Road, London E7 9JB 081 534 5544				
Equity Acc	801.30	843.50	- 5.20	...
-do- Initial	527.80	555.60	- 3.40	...
Gilt Edged Acc	370.70	390.30	+ 0.40	...
-do- Initial	246.40	259.40	+ 0.30	...
International Acc	381.40	401.50	- 4.70	...
-do- Initial	251.80	265.10	- 3.10	...
Managed Acc	501.30	527.70	- 3.50	...
-do- Initial	332.10	349.60	- 2.30	...
Money Acc	292.20	307.60	+ 0.20	...
Property Acc	306.50	322.70	+ 0.10	...
-do- Initial	201.70	212.40	- 0.10	...
America Acc	262.60	276.50	- 0.20	...
Australia Acc	203.70	214.50	+ 3.60	...
Financial Acc	306.50	322.70	+ 1.10	...
500 Accum	422.50	444.80	- 1.00	...
Japan Genl Acc	331.30	348.80	-19.40	...
Income Acc	493.10	519.10	- 4.90	...
Leisure Acc	217.50	229.00	- 1.60	...
Special Sits Acc	222.30	233.00	- 1.50	...
Univ Tech Acc	149.80	157.70	- 2.20	...
BLACK HORSE LIFE				
Mountbatten House, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF 0634 834000				
The Managed Fd	776.64	776.64	- 2.09	...
Income Fund	743.58	782.72	- 0.70	...
Extra Income	672.91	708.33	- 1.35	...
Worldwide Gth	467.42	492.03	- 3.12	...
Balanced Fund	640.20	673.90	- 0.85	...
Smllr Cos Recov	665.90	700.93	+ 3.17	...
N Amer & Genl	339.75	357.64	+ 2.93	...
Pacific Basin	382.55	402.69	- 1.49	...
German Growth	231.99	244.20	+ 1.31	...
Japan Growth	176.81	186.12	- 8.94	...
The UK Gth Fd	201.78	212.40	- 0.42	...
Contl Euro Gth	128.48	135.25	+ 0.43	...
Property Fund	413.12	434.87	+ 0.35	...
Fixed Interest	296.69	312.31	+ 5.23	...
Cash Fund	284.20	299.16	+ 0.30	...
Managed Inv	470.33	495.09	- 1.30	...
Nth Amer Recov	229.70	241.79	+ 4.34	...
Abtrust Fund				
Managed Grth	493.01	518.96	- 0.75	...
BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE				
PO Box 37, Greenock, Renfrewshire 0475 888080				
Measured Perf	153.40	161.30	- 0.70	...
Performance Plus	151.90	160.70	- 0.30	...
With Profit Perf	172.60	182.60	+ 0.20	...
UK Opportunity	169.10	178.90	- 1.20	...
Euro Opportunity	216.80	229.40	+ 2.60	...
North Amer Opp	160.70	170.00	+ 1.40	...
Far East Opp	171.40	181.30	- 3.30	...
Gwth Prop Ser 1	126.30	133.00	- 0.90	...
Gth Prop Ser 2	182.80	193.40	...	...
Fixed Int	182.50	193.10	+ 3.70	...
Cash	157.10	166.20	+ 0.10	...
Overseas	175.10	185.20	- 0.30	...
Formerly LAS				
Managed Fund	318.50	335.30	+ 0.20	...
UK Equity	521.90	549.40	- 2.80	...
Property	300.70	316.60	- 0.10	...
Money Market	252.90	266.30	+ 0.10	...
Fixed Interest	299.40	315.20	+ 0.20	...
Japan	357.80	376.70	-21.80	...
North America	146.10	153.80	+ 1.00	...
International	281.30	296.20	- 0.80	...
European	281.30	296.20	+ 5.20	...
Far East	119.30	125.60	- 2.70	...
CANADA LIFE				
2-6 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA 0707 51122				
Equity Growth	£271.80	...	...	...
Managed	318.40	334.00	- 1.20	...
Property	237.40	249.90	+ 0.10	...
Gilt & Fxd Int	233.90	246.30	- 0.20	...
Equity	349.30	367.70	- 1.60	...
Cash	217.40	228.90	...	...
CLife Euro Mgd	360.90	379.90	- 0.20	...
CLife Intl Fd	341.20	359.20	- 2.80	...
CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE				
Sentry House, 500 Avebury Blvd, Milton Keynes MK9 2NU. 0908 606101				
Property Fund	175.70	185.00	...	...
Managed Fund	573.90	604.20	- 7.10	...
Equity Fund	327.10	344.40	- 2.90	...
CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS				
Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH. 0272 290566				
Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	272.60	287.00	- 1.50	...
Ruby	161.70	170.30	- 2.30	...
Emerald	141.70	149.20	...	...
Equity	311.40	327.80	+ 1.60	...
Property	231.50	243.70	- 0.30	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	196.20	206.60	- 0.10	...
Indexed Secs	163.30	171.90	+ 0.20	...
Cash	187.80	197.70	+ 0.30	...
Nth American	212.40	223.60	+ 0.20	...
Far East	287.30	302.50	- 2.00	...
International	226.20	238.20	- 3.00	...
Special Sits	310.10	326.50	- 3.30	...
Intl Income	277.10	291.70	- 0.60	...
American Inc	183.30	193.00	- 0.60	...
European	307.30	323.50	...	...
Japanese	137.80	145.10	- 5.90	...
SE Asia	316.20	332.90	- 1.40	...
With Profits Reg	166.00	174.80	+ 0.20	...
-do- Spec	166.00	174.80	+ 0.20	...
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	303.30	319.30	- 1.20	...
Equity	359.90	378.90	- 0.40	...
Property	214.60	225.90	- 0.20	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	244.20	257.10	- 0.40	...
Index Linked	172.70	181.80	+ 0.20	...
Cash	251.50	264.80	+ 0.20	...
Nth American	256.10	269.60	- 0.10	...
Far East Acc	292.30	307.70	- 9.60	...
International Acc	283.40	298.40	- 3.90	...
Special Sits	448.40	472.10	- 1.00	...
European Flex	423.80	446.20	+ 1.70	...
COLONIAL MUTUAL GROUP				
Colonial Mutual House, Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY. 0634 890 000				
(Units): Key	£210.40	...	...	...
-do- Pacemaker	£302.52	...	...	...
-do- Cash	203.81	214.54	+ 0.12	...
-do- Equity	513.74	540.78	- 2.76	...
-do- Fxd Int	344.08	362.19	- 0.55	...
-do- Managed	369.11	388.54	- 1.48	...
-do- Property	294.61	310.12	- 0.32	...
(Pens): Cash Cap	208.08	219.05	+ 0.02	...
-do- Cash Inv	305.77	321.88	+ 0.24	...
-do- Equity Cap	£13.39	£14.09	-11.42	...
-do- Equity Inv	£19.67	£20.71	-15.38	...
-do- Fixed Cap	376.04	395.84	+ 1.83	...
-do- Fixed Inv	562.58	591.67	+ 3.08	...
-do- Index Cap	194.34	204.57	- 0.01	...
-do- Index Inv	285.57	300.61	+ 0.19	...
Mngd Cap	535.84	564.05	- 2.81	...
Mngd Inv	787.39	828.89	- 3.56	...
COMMERCIAL UNION				
St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3. 071 283 7500				
Var Ann Acc (5)	£668.64	...	+ 1.58	...
Var Ann (5)	188.07	...	+ 0.10	...
Prime: Managed	381.90	402.10	- 3.30	...
Prime: UK Equity	458.60	482.80	- 2.40	...
Prime: Int Equity	285.90	301.00	- 6.10	...
Prime: Property	253.60	267.00	- 0.20	...
Prime Fxd Int	224.60	236.70	+ 0.70	...
Prime Index-Lnk	165.20	173.90	+ 0.40	...
Prime: Cash	206.50	217.40	+ 0.10	...
CONFEDERATION LIFE				
Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN 0438 744840				
Managed Fund	£11.07	£11.66	- 3.90	0.0
Equity Fund	£15.93	£16.77	+ 0.30	...
CROWN FINANCIAL				
Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW 0483 715033				
Life Mangd Acc	568.50	598.40	- 2.80	...
Life Fxd Int Acc	361.30	380.30	+ 0.30	...
Life Equity Acc	791.00	832.60	- 1.60	...
Life Money Acc	302.20	318.10	+ 0.30	...
Life Inv Tst Acc	766.90	807.20	- 3.90	...
Life Intl Acc	474.30	499.20	- 6.30	...
Life High Inc Acc	767.30	807.60	- 4.10	...
Life Property Acc	260.00	273.60	+ 0.20	...
Crown Brit Inv A	£13.10	...	...	...
Brewin Equity	658.90	693.50	- 4.80	...
EAGLE STAR LIFE ASSURANCE				
Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ. 0242 221311				
Secure Fund	176.20	185.50	+ 0.20	...
Managed Fund	227.80	239.80	- 2.40	...
-do- Series 2	149.20	157.10	- 1.60	...
Adventurous Fd	181.60	191.30	- 2.90	...
-do- Series 2	139.10	146.50	- 2.10	...
Equity Mngd Fd	230.80	243.00	- 2.90	...
-do- Series 2	152.70	160.80	- 1.90	...
UK Pref Fxd Int	137.10	144.40	+ 0.20	...
UK Equity Fund	152.90	161.00	- 1.90	...
Property Fund	120.30	126.70	- 0.20	...
Envrnmntl Opps	154.40	162.60	- 2.30	...
Euro Fund	179.50	189.00	+ 1.20	...
North Amer Fd	179.10	188.60	+ 0.80	...
Oriental Opps	205.10	215.90	- 0.20	...
Japanese Fund	123.20	129.70	- 6.70	...
Bd & West Life	124.40	131.00	+ 0.10	...
Bd & West Pen	140.50	147.90	+ 0.20	...
EAGLE STAR/MIDLAND				
60 St Mary Axe, London EC3. 071 929 1111				
Eagle/Mid Uts	246.60	255.50	- 0.70	3.58
FRIENDS' PROVIDENT				
Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH 0722 413366				
Managed (Mixd)	290.30	305.60	- 1.70	...
UK Equity	383.10	403.30	- 2.60	...
Stewardship	329.70	347.10	- 3.40	...
Overseas Equity	265.40	279.40	- 1.90	...
North American	142.10	149.60	+ 0.20	...
Pacific Basin	151.20	159.20	- 3.80	...
European	209.80	220.90	+ 1.10	...
Property	205.70	216.60	- 0.20	...
Fixed Interest	223.50	235.30	- 0.20	...
Index Linked	162.80	171.40	+ 0.20	...
Cash	201.40	212.00	+ 0.20	...
FP Life Assurance ex NM				
Fixed Interest	519.10	546.40	+ 3.50	...
Managed	670.00	705.20	- 3.90	...
Deposit	345.20	363.30	+ 0.30	...
Property	483.80	509.20	- 2.00	...
American	396.90	417.70	- 4.70	...
Australian	493.70	519.60	+ 5.30	...
European	513.90	540.90	+ 2.20	...
Income Acc	725.40	763.50	- 3.30	...
-do- Dist	420.40	442.50	- 2.50	4.30
International	299.70	315.40	- 1.20	...
Japan Smaller	512.50	539.40	-27.20	...
Singapore & Mal	352.60	371.10	- 6.10	...
Smaller Cos	396.20	417.00	+ 0.20	...
Tokyo Fund	656.10	690.60	-37.80	...
UK Equity	562.90	592.50	- 2.40	...
CCM Vangd Mg	716.80	754.50	+ 0.70	...
GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
Alban Gate, 14th Flr, 125 London Wall, Lond EC2Y 5AS. 071 710 4567				
GT Plan Far East	313.40	329.90	-10.40	...
GT Plan Wwide	474.80	499.80	- 8.80	...
GAN LIFE & PENSIONS				
Gan House, Harlow, Essex CM20 2EW. 0279 626262				
Portfolio Acc	656.90	656.90	- 2.80	...
-do- Inv A	656.80	691.30	- 2.90	...
UK Equity	386.70	407.20	- 2.70	...
Gilt Plus	195.40	205.80	- 0.30	...
Managed	291.40	306.80	- 1.30	...
GENERAL ACCIDENT				
2 Rougier Street, York YO1 1HR. 0904 628982				
Managed	201.10	211.50	- 1.50	...
Unitised Profit	137.60	144.80	+ 0.20	...
UK Equity	267.60	281.60	- 1.10	...
Fixed Int	186.70	196.50	+ 0.10	...
Index-Linked	159.50	167.80	+ 0.20	...
Cash Deposit	174.80	183.90	+ 0.10	...
Property	191.60	201.60	+ 0.20	...
International	165.40	174.00	- 2.10	...
American	152.80	160.70	- 0.20	...
Japan	237.10	249.40	-15.60	...
Japan Smllr Cos	242.80	255.40	-15.90	...
European	176.80	186.00	+ 1.50	...
Pacific Fund	264.00	277.80	- 4.10	...
Conv Life	120.40	126.70	- 1.00	...
For General Portfolio see Gan				
GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE				
Royal Exchange London EC3. 071 283 7101				
Ass Prop Bds	817.90	852.00	...	...
Managed Initial	431.40	454.20	- 8.10	...
-do- Acc	617.00	649.50	-11.30	...
Equity Initial	638.30	671.80	-13.30	...
-do- Acc	912.80	960.80	-18.60	...
Fixed Int Initial	426.30	448.70	- 1.00	...
-do- Acc	609.60	641.70	- 1.20	...
Intl Initial	431.50	454.30	- 5.00	...
-do- Acc	617.00	649.50	- 6.80	...
Nth Amer Initial	164.50	173.20	- 1.70	...
-do- Acc	214.10	225.40	- 2.10	...
Pacific Initial	226.30	238.30	- 7.80	...
-do- Acc	291.80	307.20	- 9.90	...
Property Initial	180.90	190.50	...	...
-do- Acc	258.50	272.10	...	...
Index-Lnkd Initl	154.30	162.40	...	...
-do- Acc	200.80	211.40	+ 0.20	...
Deposit Initial	197.60	208.00	+ 0.10	...
-do- Acc	282.50	297.40	+ 0.20	...
Euro Initial	102.30	107.70	+ 0.70	...
-do- Acc	123.00	129.50	+ 0.80	...
HAMBRO GUARDIAN ASSURANCE				
Kingsgate, 1 King Edward Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4HG. 0277 200939				
Managed	159.40	167.70	- 0.40	...
-do- Pens	194.70	204.90	- 0.90	...
UK Equity	161.80	170.30	...	...
-do- Pens	182.40	192.00	...	...
International	138.80	146.10	- 1.50	...
-do- Pens	151.00	158.90	- 1.70	...
Deposit	140.20	147.60	+ 0.10	...
-do- Pens	166.10	174.80	+ 0.20	...
HENDERSON ADMINISTRATION				
3 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PA 071 638 5757				
UK Equity Fd	340.00	361.80	- 1.40	...
North America	331.30	352.90	+ 0.90	...
Far East Fund	598.80	637.10	-15.40	...
Global Managed	450.00	478.80	- 3.40	...
Deposit Fund	230.00	242.20	...	...
Prime Residential	136.50	143.70	...	...
European Fund	253.90	270.20	+ 1.00	...
Fixed Interest	60.30	64.20	+ 0.10	...
HILL SAMUEL LIFE				
NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon 081 686 4355				
Security Fund	498.90	522.70	+ 0.90	...
British Fund	500.70	529.90	+ 2.30	...
International	515.40	545.40	+ 1.00	...
Dollar Fund	364.90	386.20	+ 7.10	...
Capital Fund	455.70	482.30	+ 1.20	...
Income Fund	661.70	700.30	+ 3.00	...
Property Series A	462.10	489.00	...	4.50
Property Units	762.40	800.60	...	...
Financial Fund	531.50	562.90	+ 3.70	...
Managed Ser A	518.00	548.20	+ 1.00	...
Managed Units	927.40	976.30	+ 1.80	...
High Yield Fund	625.60	662.10	+ 1.30	...
Money Series A	289.70	306.60	+ 0.20	...
Money Units	384.00	404.30	+ 0.30	...
Equity Fund	584.90	619.00	+ 1.50	...
Fixed Interest	353.60	374.20	- 1.30	...
Indexed Secs	180.50	191.10	+ 0.60	...
European Fund	687.40	727.50	+ 0.30	...
Natural Res	291.30	308.30	- 1.60	...
Far East Fund	630.40	667.10	- 8.40	...
Smaller Cos	469.80	497.20	+ 3.70	...
Special Sits	423.90	448.60	- 0.70	...
Man Currency	261.40	276.70	- 0.10	...
Japanese Tech	283.40	299.90	- 8.10	...
US Smaller Cos	234.60	248.30	+ 4.50	...
IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE				
Irish Life Centre, Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 5TF. 0727 [illegible]				
Global Managed	541.60	570.10	- 3.80	...
Global Property	292.20	307.60	...	...
Global Fixed Int	495.80	521.90	+ 2.30	...
Global Equity	577.20	607.60	- 4.20	...
Global Cash	214.40	225.70	+ 0.10	...
LAURENTIAN LIFE				
Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7RZ 0452 371371				
Gtd Mgd	473.60	498.50	+ 1.40	...
Property	486.20	511.70	- 6.40	...
Managed	395.50	416.30	- 2.00	...
American	377.80	397.60	+ 1.70	...
UK Equity Fd	423.90	446.20	- 0.30	...
Japan	200.60	211.10	-15.00	...
Index-Lkd	179.00	188.40	+ 0.60	...
High Yield	818.00	861.00	- 3.30	...
Growth Cap	418.80	440.80	+ 1.70	...
Money	404.10	425.30	+ 0.40	...
International	374.30	394.00	- 5.50	...
Henderson Active	208.00	218.90	- 3.40	...
Perpetual Active	310.40	326.70	- 3.10	...
Growth Cap	418.80	440.80	+ 1.70	...
-do- Acc	630.10	652.70	- 3.30	...
LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE				
2 Montefiore Road, Hove, Sussex BN3 1SE 0273 824000				
B Soc Lnkd Init	135.00	142.20	...	...
-do- Acc	187.20	197.10	+ 0.10	...
Brit Opps Inv	136.20	143.40	- 0.50	...
-do- Acc	169.50	178.50	- 0.60	...
Cash Initial	167.40	176.30	+ 0.10	...
-do- Acc	288.90	304.20	+ 0.30	...
Equity Initial	620.00	652.70	- 2.10	...
-do- Acc	£10.70	£11.26	- 3.40	...
Fixed Initial	331.40	348.90	+ 0.30	...
-do- Acc	571.90	602.00	+ 0.40	...
Index-Lnkd Gilt	129.10	135.90	+ 0.30	...
-do- Acc	190.00	200.00	+ 0.30	...
Intl Initial	316.10	332.80	- 6.80	...
-do- Acc	537.00	565.30	-11.70	...
Managed Initial	454.40	478.40	- 3.50	...
-do- Acc	784.20	825.50	- 6.20	...
Property Initial	218.70	230.30	+ 0.30	...
-do- Acc	377.50	397.40	+ 0.50	...
LINCOLN NATIONAL				
1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB 081 902 8876				
Equity Units	£127.29	...	- 0.36	...
Property Units	£27.24	...	+ 0.01	...
Bal Bd Exec Unit	£64.99	£68.41	- 0.20	...
2nd Equity Acc	611.10	643.30	- 1.70	...
2nd High Inc Ac	593.10	624.30	- 5.30	...
2nd Property Acc	248.10	261.10	...	...
2nd Mngd 2 Acc	178.30	187.70	- 0.10	...
2nd Mngd 3 Acc	456.50	480.50	- 1.50	...
2nd Mngd 4 Acc	225.90	237.80	- 0.40	...
2nd Deposit Acc	284.10	299.10	+ 0.20	...
2nd Gilt Acc	293.70	309.20	+ 1.00	...
2nd Amer Acc	637.80	671.40	+ 6.70	...
2nd Intl Mny Acc	262.00	275.70	- 1.90	...
2nd Index Acc	202.30	213.00	+ 0.80	...
2nd Far East Acc	437.60	460.60	- 9.80	...
2nd Global Acc	164.30	172.90	- 0.30	...
2nd Euro Acc	158.80	167.30	+ 0.10	...
2nd Japan Acc	194.50	204.70	- 5.50	...
2nd Intl Cr Bd Acc	158.80	167.20	- 0.50	...
2nd Cap Gth Acc	125.10	131.70	- 0.30	...
LONDON LIFE				
100 Temple Street, Bristol BS1 6EA 0272 279179				
Equity	£872.70	...	-14.10	...
Fixed Interest	£406.60	...	- 2.90	...
Property	£416.50	...	+ 0.20	...
Deposit	£203.80	...	+ 0.10	...
Mixed	£577.00	...	- 7.60	...
Indexed Stock	£206.80	...	+ 0.70	...
International	£278.30	...	- 3.90	...
Equity A	£202.50	...	- 3.30	...
Fixed Int A	£180.40	...	- 1.30	...
Property A	£183.10	...	+ 0.30	...
Deposit A	£172.50	...	...	...
Mixed A	£189.60	...	- 2.60	...
Index Stock A	£162.00	...	+ 1.00	...
International A	£173.90	...	- 2.40	...
Equity P	£715.60	...	-13.70	...
Fixed Int P	£535.40	...	- 0.50	...
Property P	£335.90	...	- 0.80	...
Deposit P	£345.50	...	+ 0.30	...
Mixed P	£522.60	...	- 8.00	...
Index Stock P	£236.80	...	+ 0.60	...
International P	£331.20	...	- 5.70	...
LONDON & MANCHESTER ASSURANCE				
Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 0392 282456				
Inv Trust Cap	£560.70	...	- 4.40	...
-do- Acc	£944.10	...	- 6.60	...
Property Cap	£149.90	...	+ 0.10	...
-do- Acc	£242.80	...	+ 0.40	...
Fxd Interest Cap	£187.40	...	+ 0.40	...
-do- Acc	£305.10	...	+ 0.80	...
Equity Cap	£299.80	...	- 1.10	...
-do- Acc	£494.70	...	- 1.50	...
Internatl Cap	£218.90	...	- 1.40	...
-do- Acc	£357.80	...	- 1.90	...
Gtd Deposit Cap	£165.10	...	- 0.10	...
-do- Acc	£265.40	...	+ 0.10	...
Flexible Cap	£325.30	...	- 1.10	...
-do- Acc	£535.40	...	- 1.40	...
Moneymaster Fd	£413.40	...	- 1.20	...
Capital Growth	£16.04	...	- 4.80	...
M & G				
Victoria Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1FB 0245 266266				
Amer Bond Acc	383.50	402.80	+ 0.90	...
Amer Rec Bond	463.70	487.00	- 1.50	...
Am Smlr Cos Bd	229.40	241.00	+ 1.80	...
Australasia Bd	215.90	226.60	+ 2.40	...
Commodity Bond	305.80	321.20	- 3.80	...
Deposit Bond Acc	363.00	381.30	+ 0.20	...
Equity Bond Acc	£14.55	£15.28	- 4.60	...
European Bd Acc	368.90	387.40	+ 2.40	...
Extra Yld Bd Acc	698.30	733.20	- 8.20	...
Far East Bd Acc	276.70	290.70	- 6.30	...
Gilt Bond Acc	424.90	446.20	+ 0.30	...
Gold Bond Acc	148.60	156.20	- 5.50	...
High Yield Bond	320.10	336.20	- 1.90	...
Index-Lnk Gt Bd	201.60	211.80	+ 0.70	...
International Bd	739.00	776.00	- 9.70	...
Japan Bond Acc	266.10	279.60	-12.60	...
Japan Sm Cos Ac	262.50	275.70	-12.20	...
Managed Bonds	846.30	888.80	- 0.10	...
Prop Bond Acc	326.00	342.50	+ 1.10	...
Rec Bond Acc	720.30	756.40	+ 0.60	...
MGM ASSURANCE				
MGM House, Heene Road, Worthing BN11 2DY. 0903 204631				
UK Equity	212.90	224.20	- 1.50	...
UK Equity Acc	301.70	317.60	- 2.00	...
Special Sits	88.20	92.90	- 0.10	...
Special Sits Acc	125.00	131.60	- 0.10	...
North American	167.20	176.00	+ 0.50	...
N American Acc	237.00	249.50	+ 1.00	...
Pacific Basin	333.60	351.20	- 7.20	...
Pacific Basin Acc	472.70	497.60	- 9.90	...
Fixed Interest	271.70	286.00	+ 0.60	...
Fixed Interest Acc	385.40	405.70	+ 1.10	...
Property	177.80	187.20	+ 0.10	...
Property Acc	252.20	265.50	+ 0.20	...
Deposit	152.00	160.00	...	...
Deposit Acc	216.00	227.40	+ 0.10	...
Managed	245.60	258.60	- 1.20	...
Managed Acc	320.80	337.70	- 1.50	...
MANULIFE GROUP				
St George's Way, Stevenage, Herts 0438 356101				
Managed Fund	685.90	722.00	- 3.40	...
Property Fund	544.40	573.00	+ 0.70	...
Equity Fund	871.20	917.00	- 5.30	...
Gilt Edged Fd	596.00	627.40	- 0.80	...
Deposit Fund	332.50	350.00	+ 0.30	...
Investment Fd	373.40	393.00	- 1.80	...
International	518.70	546.00	- 4.90	...
MERCHANT INVESTORS				
St Bartholomews House, Lewins Mead, Bristol BS1 2NH 0272 266 366				
Property	449.60	473.20	+ 0.50	...
UK Equity	336.60	354.30	...	...
Gilt Edged	550.70	579.60	+ 1.60	...
Interest Fund	388.20	408.60	+ 0.30	...
UK Fund	472.40	497.20	+ 0.50	...
Intl Equity	577.00	607.30	-11.00	...
Intl Managed	545.60	574.30	- 6.30	...
North American	208.40	219.30	+ 0.50	...
Far East	428.00	450.50	-14.50	...
Intl Currency	258.40	272.00	+ 1.50	...
For NM Life see Friends Provident				
NPI				
48 Gracechurch Street, London EC3P 3HH 071 623 4200				
Managed	461.70	485.90	- 2.70	...
UK Equity	574.20	604.40	- 1.80	...
Overseas Equity	450.90	474.60	- 7.30	...
Americas	383.00	403.10	- 2.30	...
Far East	506.40	533.00	-12.50	...
Property	218.60	230.10	+ 0.40	...
Fixed Interest	371.90	391.40	+ 0.60	...
Indexed Gilt	224.80	236.60	+ 0.30	...
Deposit	217.50	228.90	+ 0.10	...
NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY - Ex NUAM Funds				
PO Box 148, Norwich NR3 1PP 0603 622200				
Managed Fund	£13.59	£14.30	- 3.90	...
Eqity Fund	£29.35	£31.10	- 7.20	...
Property Fd	578.30	608.70	...	...
Fixed Int Fd	572.70	602.80	+ 0.20	...
Deposit Fund	350.60	369.10	+ 0.40	...
Intl Fund	230.30	242.40	- 2.20	...
PEARL ASSURANCE				
The Pearl Centre, Lynch Wood, Peterborough PE2 6FY. 0733 470 470				
Inv Prop Dis	157.70	166.00	- 1.20	...
Prop Acc (Gross)	332.60	350.10	- 2.50	...
Inv Equity	£11.48	£12.08	-12.70	...
Inv Managed	819.30	862.50	- 4.70	...
Ret Managed	907.01	954.80	- 7.30	...
PROVIDENCE CAPITOL				
2 Hanley Way, Hook, Hants RG27 9XA 0256 768888				
Equity Fund Acc	273.70	288.10	+ 4.90	...
Fxd Interest Acc	235.20	248.20	- 1.60	...
International Acc	246.30	259.90	- 3.90	...
Managed Acc	211.30	222.90	- 1.60	...
Property Acc	227.60	240.10	+ 0.80	...
Money Acc	154.90	163.40	+ 0.10	...
Spec Mkt Acc	221.40	233.60	+ 0.30	...
Japan Equity Acc	120.70	127.40	- 3.40	...
N Amer Acc	149.60	157.90	+ 0.10	...
Pacific Acc	146.90	155.00	- 5.30	...
European Acc	185.90	196.10	+ 1.70	...
PROVIDENT MUTUAL				
William Road, Hitchin, Herts SG4 0LP 0438 739000				
Managed Ord	454.30	478.20	- 1.90	...
Managed Initial	305.10	321.20	- 1.40	...
Equity Ord	682.00	717.90	- 0.80	...
Equity Init	458.00	482.10	- 0.80	...
H-Linked Gilt Ord	195.10	205.40	+ 0.50	...
H-Linked Gilt Init	136.80	144.00	+ 0.20	...
Ovseas Equity Ord	359.30	378.20	- 4.70	...
Ovseas Equity Init	241.30	254.00	- 3.30	...
Property Ord	283.80	298.70	+ 0.30	...
Property Init	190.60	200.60	+ 0.10	...
Fixed Int Ord	270.90	285.20	+ 0.30	...
Fixed Int Init	181.90	191.50	...	...
Deposit Ord	207.20	218.10	+ 0.20	...
Deposit Initial	139.10	146.40	...	...
PRUDENTIAL				
Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2NH 071 405 9222				
Managed	327.50	341.20	+ 3.80	...
PRUDENTIAL INDIVIDUAL LIFE FUNDS				
1 Stephen Street, London W1P 2AP 071 548 3278				
Managed Fund	758.00	797.90	- 4.10	...
Equity Fund	£14.07	£14.81	- 7.20	...
Intl Fund	592.20	623.40	- 6.00	...
Fixed Interest	546.60	575.40	+ 0.20	...
Property Fund	479.80	505.10	...	...
Cash Fund	366.30	385.60	+ 0.20	...
Pacific Basin	334.70	352.40	- 8.50	...
N American Fd	234.20	246.60	+ 0.20	...
Euro Fund	259.50	273.20	+ 2.30	...
Balanced Fund	148.10	155.90	- 0.80	...
Strategic Fund	155.30	163.50	- 1.30	...
ROYAL HERITAGE LIFE ASSURANCE				
Peterborough Business Park, Peterborough PE2 6GG. 0733 390000				
Mult Grow (45)	£720.90	...	...	...
-do- Acc	438.10	461.20	...	...
Op Prop	505.60	532.30	+23.40	...
Op Equity	902.10	949.60	- 1.80	...
Op High Yield	564.30	594.00	+ 0.50	...
Op Managed	782.30	823.50	- 4.50	...
Op Deposit	394.60	415.40	+ 0.40	...
Inc Gth	282.10	297.00	- 0.70	...
Japan Smlr	260.50	274.30	-13.20	...
Managed Gth	245.30	258.30	- 2.20	...
Gilt	77.80	81.90	+ 0.30	...
British	330.50	347.90	+ 0.50	...
Global Bond	107.80	113.50	...	...
Global (35.34)	157.30	165.60	- 1.40	...
Gold Share	85.80	90.40	- 3.80	...
High Income	294.20	309.70	+ 8.20	...
Income	414.20	436.00	- 0.60	...
Japan	417.50	439.50	-22.30	...
UK Smlr Cos	329.60	347.00	- 0.30	...
Mngd Growth	440.90	464.20	+ 9.00	...
ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE				
New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3HS 051 239 3000				
Royal Shield Fd	934.20	988.50	- 8.10	...
Royal Life Unit Linked				
Managed Fund	770.80	790.30	- 3.20	...
Equity Fund	517.80	545.00	- 4.20	...
Property Fund	336.60	354.30	+ 0.10	...
International	458.40	482.50	- 3.40	...
Pacific Basin	256.60	270.10	- 8.30	...
United States	245.20	258.10	+ 1.20	...
Gilt Fund	354.80	373.40	+ 0.10	...
SAVE & PROSPER				
16-22 Western Road, Romford, Essex RM1 3LB. 0708 766966				
Bal Inv Fund	748.70	792.30	- 1.50	2.34
Deposit Fund (2)	373.00	394.80	+ 0.40	6.23
Gilt Fund	504.40	533.80	+ 1.30	8.40
Global Equity Fd	228.80	242.20	- 1.20	...
Property Fund (46)	111.60	118.10	...	6.67
AG Bond Fund	145.00	153.50	- 0.80	...
SCOTTISH AMICABLE				
150 St Vincent Street, Glasgow 041 248 2323				
Equity	571.20	601.30	- 0.50	...
Fixed Interest	360.90	379.90	+ 0.90	...
Index-Linked	191.50	201.60	+ 1.30	...
International	446.50	470.00	- 3.00	...
Property	298.10	313.80	+ 0.30	...
Cash	230.90	243.10	+ 0.10	...
Managed	457.10	481.20	- 0.80	...
Cap Gteed Bd	109.00	114.80	- 0.20	...
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE				
28 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF 031 556 9101				
Cash	182.14	191.72	+ 0.15	...
Index-Linked	157.00	165.30	+ 0.50	...
Fixed Interest	168.60	177.50	...	...
Mixed	246.00	258.90	- 2.30	...
UK Equity	229.40	241.50	- 2.40	...
International	249.20	262.30	- 2.70	...
American	241.60	254.30	- 0.10	...
Japan	228.30	240.30	- 0.90	...
European	252.70	266.00	+ 1.70	...
Pacific	326.70	343.90	- 5.20	...
Technology	352.20	370.80	- 3.50	...
Currency/Currncy	222.10	233.80	+ 0.40	...
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS				
19 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YE 031 225 2211				
Property	225.80	237.80	+ 0.60	...
UK Equity	335.70	353.50	- 5.00	...
American	229.80	242.00	- 2.20	...
Pacific	318.00	334.80	-10.40	...
European	457.40	481.60	+ 0.20	...
International	287.00	302.20	- 4.50	...
Fixed Interest	230.70	243.00	- 0.20	...
Index Linked	189.60	199.70	- 0.20	...
Deposit	195.20	205.60	+ 0.20	...
Managed	271.70	286.10	- 3.40	...
Worldwide	112.20	118.20	- 1.30	...
Pen Worldwide	118.80	125.10	- 1.50	...
SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE				
109 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5HN 041 248 6321				
Flex Fund (35)	£15.74	£16.23	...	...
Safety Fund	227.50	239.50	- 0.40	...
Growth Fund	220.40	232.10	- 1.20	...
Opportunity Fd	217.00	228.50	- 1.10	...
Cash Fund	175.30	184.60	+ 0.10	...
European Fund	330.90	348.40	+ 2.20	...
Gilts & Fxd Int	194.30	204.60	- 0.10	...
Index-Linked Fd	176.30	185.60	+ 0.40	...
International Fd	269.80	284.10	- 3.20	...
North American	223.20	235.00	- 1.20	...
Property Fund	130.30	137.20	- 0.10	...
UK Equity	235.10	247.50	- 1.80	...
UK Smaller	226.40	238.40	- 0.60	...
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT				
6 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA 031 556 9181				
Mixed	257.10	270.60	- 0.50	...
Equity	265.80	279.90	- 0.70	...
International	266.40	280.60	- 2.50	...
Property	234.60	247.10	+ 0.20	...
Fixed Interest	216.60	228.20	+ 0.90	...
Index Linked	174.50	183.80	+ 0.30	...
Cash	187.60	197.60	+ 0.20	...
Formerly Pacific				
Bal Gwth Mngd	770.40	819.60	- 3.10	...
Cash Fund	341.20	359.60	+ 0.30	...
Property Fund	295.80	311.80	+ 0.30	...
Equity Fund	881.20	932.50	- 6.80	...
Fxd Interest Fund	447.50	471.60	+ 0.40	...
International	389.10	414.00	- 4.20	...
High Income	674.80	717.90	- 5.90	...
Far East	552.50	587.60	-12.70	...
North American	511.20	543.90	+ 0.60	...
Special Sits	622.50	662.30	- 1.40	...
Technology	354.30	380.70	+ 1.70	...
Extra Income Fd	367.10	390.60	- 0.90	...
Gilt Fund	468.10	498.00	+ 0.50	...
European	146.70	156.10	+ 0.80	...
Adventurous Mg	209.90	221.00	- 0.30	...
Secure Mgd	144.90	152.70	...	...
Equity Inc Dist	111.60	117.70	- 0.80	4.99
North American	106.10	111.90	- 1.30	5.36
SCOTTISH WIDOWS				
PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH16 5BU 031 655 6000				
Inv Pol 1	907.30	907.30	- 4.00	...
Inv Pol 2	824.30	867.80	- 3.80	...
Inv Pol 3	787.30	828.90	- 3.60	...
Inv Cash	316.40	333.10	+ 0.50	...
Mixed Fund	430.70	453.60	- 5.30	...
Equity Fund	504.20	530.80	- 7.60	...
Property Fund	248.00	261.10	+ 0.20	...
International Fd	469.70	494.50	- 7.10	...
Fixed Interest Fd	363.90	383.10	+ 0.80	...
Indexed Stock Fd	191.60	201.80	+ 0.30	...
Cash Fund	229.00	241.20	+ 0.20	...
SKANDIA LIFE				
Skandia House, Portland Terrace, Southampton SO9 7BX 0703 334411				
Managed Acc	366.00	385.20	- 1.90	...
Equity Acc	431.80	454.50	- 3.00	...
International Acc	330.30	347.60	- 5.20	...
Property	236.80	249.20	- 0.20	...
Royal Trust Mg	229.70	241.70	- 1.40	...
STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO				
3 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ 031 225 2552				
Cash	269.80	284.00	+ 0.30	...
Equity	987.10	£10.18	- 7.30	...
European	167.10	175.90	- 0.30	...
Far East	158.10	166.50	- 5.00	...
Fixed Interest	384.80	405.10	+ 0.50	...
Index Linked	202.80	213.50	+ 0.50	...
International	585.00	615.60	- 8.10	...
Managed	675.50	711.10	- 3.90	...
Nth American	137.80	145.10	...	...
Property	363.20	382.40	- 0.40	...
Pensions				
Cash	420.40	442.60	+ 0.40	...
Equity	£13.80	£14.52	- 9.50	...
European	197.70	208.20	+ 0.10	...
Far East	125.50	132.20	- 4.40	...
Fixed Interest	531.00	559.00	+ 0.90	...
Index Linked	281.90	296.80	+ 0.70	...
International	815.40	858.40	-13.60	...
Managed	943.40	993.10	- 8.20	...
Nth American	168.90	177.80	...	...
Property	496.20	522.40	...	...
Stock Exchange	211.80	223.00	- 1.90	...
SUN ALLIANCE				
St Mark's Court, Horsham, Sussex 0403 232323				
Managed Fund	635.60	669.10	- 0.80	...
Equity Fund	825.50	869.00	- 1.40	...
Fixed Interest Fd	399.70	420.80	- 0.10	...
Index-Linked Fd	309.00	325.20	+ 0.60	...
Property Fund	526.40	554.20	+ 0.90	...
International Fd	602.40	634.10	- 2.10	...
N American Fd	222.90	234.60	+ 0.30	...
Far East Fund	211.00	222.20	- 3.30	...
Deposit Fund	298.30	314.00	+ 0.20	...
International Bd	£182.63	...	- 0.32	...
Worldwide Bond	148.80	156.70	+ 0.10	...
European	161.10	169.60	- 1.20	...
Phoenix Assurance				
Wealth Assured	638.20	671.90	+ 1.10	...
Ebor Phoenix Eq	434.10	463.90	-11.70	...
Property Growth				
Property Fund	£607.70	...	+ 1.00	...
-do- Acc	£566.80	...	+ 0.90	...
Agricultural Fd	£636.90	...	+ 0.50	...
-do- Acc	£794.40	...	+ 0.50	...
Abbey Nat Fd	£148.60	...	+ 0.52	...
Abbey Nat Acc	£674.30	...	+ 0.50	...
Investment Fd	£338.20	...	- 0.40	...
Investment (A)	£324.60	...	- 0.40	...
Equity	£120.01	...	- 1.60	...
Equity Acc	£111.50	...	- 1.60	...
Money Fund	£475.80	...	+ 0.40	...
-do- Acc	£454.80	...	+ 0.40	...
Actuarial Fd	£551.90	...	- 0.80	...
Gilt-Edged Fd	£374.30	...	- 0.10	...
-do- Acc	£374.30	...	- 0.10	...
Retire Annuity	£112.64	...	...	...
Immed Annuity	£318.50	...	...	...
Bldg Soc Life	£227.40	...	+ 0.20	...
SUN LIFE OF CANADA				
Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ Dealing: 0256 841414				
Growth Account	£14.29	...	+ 3.20	...
Managed Acc	£907.60	...	...	...
Equity Account	£11.42	...	+ 1.40	...
Mngd Fund Acc	371.90	391.00	- 0.10	...
Equity Fund Acc	499.10	525.30	+ 0.60	...
Prop Fund Acc	266.50	280.60	+ 0.30	...
Fixed Int Fd Acc	298.50	314.30	+ 1.80	...
Money Fund Acc	222.30	234.00	+ 0.20	...
Indx-Lnk Scs Ac	198.80	209.30	+ 0.20	...
Pers Pens Acct	£18.45	...	+ 7.10	...
Pens Mngd Acct	857.90	903.00	+ 3.30	...
Pens Guarantee	254.20	267.60	+ 0.60	...
Pens Equity	327.10	344.30	+ 1.40	...
Pens Property	304.20	320.20	+ 0.40	...
Pens Fixed Int	277.30	291.90	+ 2.50	...
Pens Intl	237.40	249.90	...	...
Pens Money	237.70	250.20	+ 0.20	...
Pens Indx-Lnkd	190.60	200.60	+ 1.50	...
SUN LIFE UNIT				
St James Barton, Bristol BS99 7SL 0272 426911				
Managed Acc	863.70	909.20	- 2.70	...
Property Acc	308.20	324.50	- 0.20	...
Equity Acc	£13.95	£14.69	- 6.30	...
Fixed Int Acc	386.10	406.50	- 0.50	...
Cash Acc	310.90	327.30	+ 0.20	...
Amer Equity Acc	346.40	364.70	+ 3.10	...
Japan Acc	302.80	318.80	-11.70	...
Pacific Acc	341.70	359.70	+ 3.00	...
Far Eastern Acc	805.60	848.00	- 1.50	...
International Acc	570.70	600.80	- 2.40	...
Distribution Fund	267.50	281.60	- 2.10	6.21
European	189.00	199.00	+ 0.70	...
Defnd Dist	162.90	171.50	- 0.70	...
TSB LIFE LTD				
Charlton Place, Andover, Hants SP10 1RE 0264 345678				
Managed Fund	272.10	286.50	- 1.10	...
Property Fund	230.00	242.20	+ 0.20	...
Fixed Interest Fd	217.20	228.80	+ 0.50	...
Money Fund	201.20	211.80	+ 0.20	...
Equity Fund	356.00	374.90	- 1.90	...
TARGET LIFE				
The Exchange, 66 High Street, Aylesbury, Bucks. 0296 394000				
Deposit	250.50	263.70	+ 0.10	...
Financial Ser 1	43.00	46.20	- 0.10	...
Fixed Interest	317.10	333.90	+ 0.30	...
Gold	76.80	80.90	- 0.90	...
Managed	585.70	616.70	- 2.50	...
Mngd Growth	186.80	196.70	- 0.60	...
Mngd Opp	197.30	207.70	- 0.80	...
Property	331.10	348.60	...	...
Residential Prop	102.50	108.00	...	...
TSB American	181.40	191.10	- 0.10	...
TSB Brit Gwth	796.10	838.10	- 3.70	...
TSB European	254.00	268.50	- 2.00	...
TSB Income	356.10	375.50	- 1.20	...
TSB Intl	390.10	410.70	- 7.90	...
TSB Intl Inc	270.80	285.10	- 0.10	...
TSB Pacific	383.70	404.00	-17.70	...
TSB Prem Inc	243.10	253.90	+ 8.10	...
WINDSOR LIFE				
Windsor House, Telford, Shropshire 0952 292929				
Managed Bond	690.60	727.70	+ 2.50	...
Money Fund	319.30	336.10	+ 0.20	...
Equity Fund	583.50	614.90	...	...
Fixed Interest	268.70	283.10	...	...
Property Fund	365.80	385.10	...	...
Gresham Framlington				
American & Genl	362.50	382.70	+12.70	...
Income	726.50	765.50	+ 4.00	...
International Gth	613.70	646.70	+ 3.90	...
Capital Fund	630.60	664.50	- 3.20	...
Recovery Fund	630.30	664.20	- 8.10	...
Japan & General	263.70	277.90	- 5.80	...
Formerly Abtrust				
Life Funds				
Squirrel	18.16	19.12	+ 0.01	...
Bear	18.70	19.68	- 0.04	...
Owl	19.03	20.69	- 0.06	...
Bull	17.87	18.81	- 0.10	...
Stag	18.16	19.12	+ 0.06	...
Gilt Edged	17.97	18.92	- 0.05	...
Deposit	15.89	16.73	+ 0.01	...
Pensions				
Squirrel	24.68	25.98	+ 0.02	...
Bear	25.66	27.01	- 0.04	...
Owl	26.32	27.71	- 0.05	...
Bull	22.93	24.14	- 0.09	...
Stag	22.16	23.33	- 0.06	...
Gilt Edged	22.61	23.81	- 0.07	...
Deposit	20.55	21.63	+ 0.02	...
Pre 1982 Series				
3-Way Fund	579.06	...	+ 2.64	...
1982 Series				
UK Equity	324.13	341.21	+ 0.04	...
N Amer Equity	270.60	284.84	+ 2.90	...
Far East Equity	360.12	379.07	- 5.15	...
Fixed	283.08	297.98	- 1.02	...
Cash Deposit	206.02	216.86	+ 0.15	...
Property	153.63	161.72	- 0.27	...
Special Opp	353.12	380.65	- 3.90	...
Managed	306.17	322.28	- 1.49	...
Index-Linked Fd	184.69	194.41	+ 0.04	...

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MONEY LETTERS

Waiting for the ombudsman

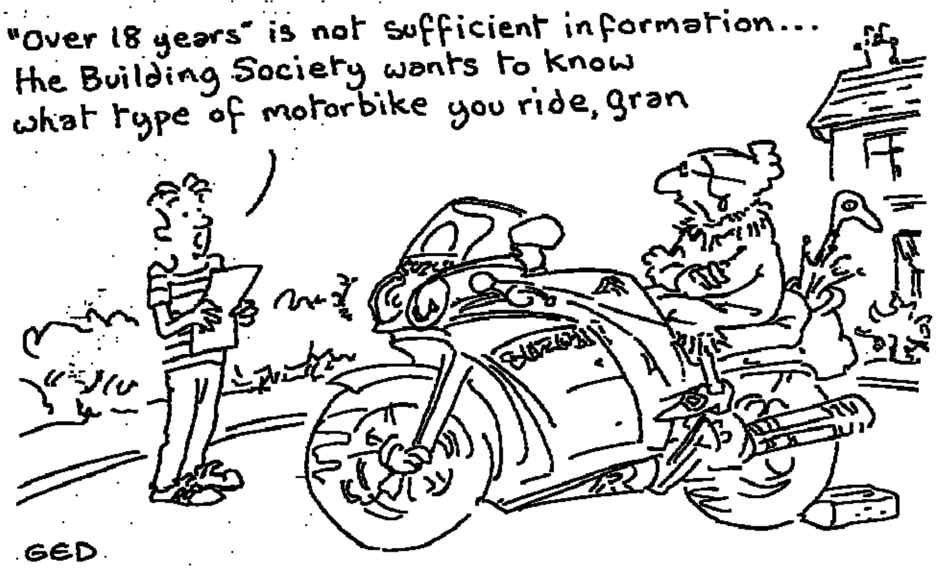
From Mr R.J. Ballantine

Sir, I read Jean Eaglesham's article, ("Compensation reform urged for sake of aged", January 7) with great interest.

Whilst the plight of those victims of home income scams, who are dependent upon the Investors Compensation Scheme for compensation deserve our sympathy, it is not the case that those of us who were sold a plan by an insurance company have all been amply compensated under the Lautro/IOB guidelines. My wife and I (I am now in my eighties) found it necessary to sell our bungalow in May 1991 to discharge the consequential debt due to the collapse of our plan in November 1990, and we now rent a flat with all our savings exhausted.

Despite the fact that all the necessary details of our ease have been in the hands of the Insurance Ombudsman since 1992, we have, so far, not obtained any compensation at all. During the past two years, our hopes have been raised and then dashed by promises of impending action in our favour by the IOB, but these have so far all come to naught, leaving us completely disillusioned with the ability of the IOB to carry out their obligations.

Yours faithfully,
R.J. BALLANTINE,
9 Aspen Court,
Wembdon Road,
Bridgwater,
Somerset.


"Over 18 years" is not sufficient information... the Building Society wants to know what type of motorbike you ride, gran
GED

Cost inhibits pensions rule change

From Ms S. Quin

Sir, Your article "Battle joined on pensions and divorce" (January 14) refers to the Pensions Management Institute Divorce and Pensions Report of May 1993.

The Law Commission first examined the loss to a divorced woman of her entitlement to a widow's pension back in 1969 — but could not find a solution to the problem. Since then the subject has been addressed by them in 1976, 1977 and by the Lord Chancellor in 1985 but to no avail.

Twenty five years on nothing has changed, as the Government has commissioned yet another survey into the extent of the problem.

Perhaps the true reason for further procrastination lies in the Government Actuary estimate of the cost to the public sector alone of up to £500 million a year if such changes in the pension law were to be introduced.

Yours faithfully,
SALLIE QUIN,
Press Relations,
Fairshares,
50 Graydon Avenue,
Chichester,
West Sussex.

Take the cash whoever you are

From Mrs I.M. Southall

Sir, Sara McConnell has not plumbed the worst depths of this subject (Identity crisis at banks and building societies, January 14). Staff sometimes seem more concerned to protect themselves (from accusations of money laundering) than their customers' deposits. The two young ladies who had loudly and publicly refused to accept my document moving money in my account to open another (cheque book) account because I offered "insufficient proof of identity" were perfectly happy to pay me cash from my account a minute later! And what happens to those who do not hold a driving licence? Must they keep their savings under the mattress?

Yours faithfully,
I.M. SOUTHALL,
44 The Crescent,
Colwall,
Hereford and Worcester.

Letters to the Weekend Money section of The Times can be sent by fax on 0171-782 5082.

Injustice by a single day

From Mr R.E.G. Cross

Sir, You report (January 14) that Lord Dubs is seeking to correct the injustice facing second named investors in joint accounts with the Cheltenham and Gloucester Building Society.

It seems to me that the injustice to account holders who miss payment by, in some cases, one day, due to not having held their accounts for two years, could also be addressed by Lord Dubs' initiative. This should be relatively straightforward as natural justice would indicate that anyone holding an account at the time of the announced takeover should qualify for payment.

Yours faithfully,
R. CROSS,
60A Joy Lane,
Whitstable,
Kent.

Coming of age at the building societies

From Mr G.W. Williams

Sir, It was with interest that I read your article (January 14) concerning demands for ID.

I consider that the demand for information, if I can use the Halifax Building Society as an example, goes beyond that necessary for opening a deposit account.

For example, "over 18 years" is not sufficient for the date of birth. In addition, further questions are asked as to whether one owns one's own home, and the type of work undertaken. These questions were not asked some two or three years ago when I opened an earlier account.

I consider that these questions may have some relevance if one is seeking to borrow money but not when one is depositing money. I suspect that the Halifax Building Society is seeking to snoop in an endeavour to build up data for their marketing activities. As a matter of principle I was not prepared to give my date of birth as I consider that the statement "over 18 years" is sufficient. I would add that in recent years I have opened several new accounts with building societies with whom I did not have existing accounts and the declaration "over 18 years" was acceptable. Naturally, in view of recent legislation additional identification was sought.

Yours faithfully,
G.W. WILLIAMS,
3 Ullswater Close,
Bromley, Kent.

Loans to trusts become taxable

Liz Dolan discovers some disturbing small print in this year's Finance Bill

Life becomes more difficult after April for people who have set up trusts to improve tax efficiency. Clause 69 of the 1995 Finance Bill, which takes effect from April 6, will, for the first time, impose an income tax charge on all existing and future loans made by the settlor (the original owner of the assets) to the trust, or by the trust to the settlor.

Loans will be deemed to generate income, even if no actual income is received, and income tax will be charged on 8 per cent of the loan.

For example, if the settlor lends the trust £10,000, and the trust retains the money for the whole of the tax year 1995/96, the settlor will have to pay income tax on £800.

☐ **Accumulation and maintenance trusts** (established by grandparents for school fees): The income is tax free up to the limit of the child's personal allowance, currently £3,445. If grandparents loan more money to the trustees to maximise the income generated, under Clause 69, they will now have to pay income tax on the loan.

☐ **Inheritance Tax (IHT) planning**: A popular way to minimise IHT bills is to settle a small amount of money on trust to the ultimate beneficiaries of your will and then lend the trust, say, £100,000. The trust uses this money to buy a single premium life bond (SPLB). The value will then grow in the trust, tax free.

If you later need to recover the loan, for instance to meet the charges for a nursing home, the trustees surrender the SPLB and repay the money. After April, you will have to pay income tax on £8,000.

Maurice Fitzpatrick, senior tax consultant with Chantrey Vellacott, says: "The new provisions could have a severe impact in certain cases. Individuals who believe they may be affected will now wish to review their affairs."

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Tel: (Home)
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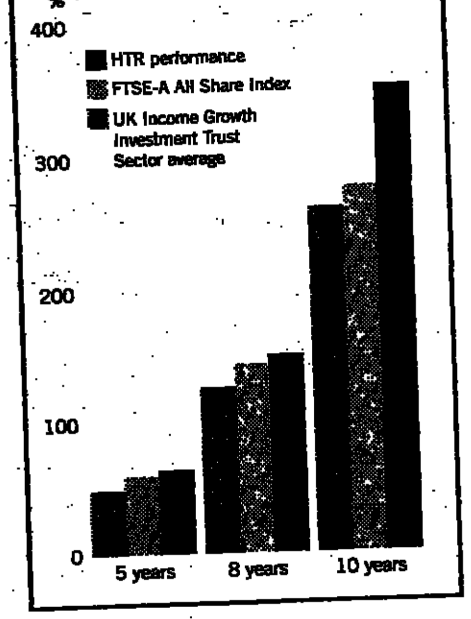

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The chart shows the average performance of the two UK Income Growth Investment Trusts managed by Henderson Touche Remnant – TR City of London Trust PLC and Lowland Investment Company plc – compared with their investment trust sector average and with the FTSE-A All Share Index, over 5, 8 and 10 years. Source: performance figures are compiled by AITC Services Ltd to 30.11.94 showing NAV total return on a mid-market to mid-market basis with net income reinvested. Past performance is no guide to the future. The value of investments and the income from them can go down as well as up and investors may not get back the amount invested.

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هكذا من الاصل

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
0895 259 783				
Grntand Amer	153.80	162.70	+ 0.30	0.24
Grntand Equity	223.80	238.20	- 2.10	2.80
Grntand Euro	191.70	202.80	- 0.30	0.45
Grntand Extra Bal	108.90	118.80	...	3.56
Grntand Gilt	71.98	74.19	- 0.07	5.66
Grntand Japan	164.80	174.20	- 8.80	...
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
0203 553 231				
General Acc	507.10	539.50	- 3.40	2.91
General Inc	447.10	475.10	- 3.70	2.91
UK Growth Acc	347.80	383.80	- 1.70	3.01
UK Growth Inc	234.10	249.10	- 1.10	3.01
Higher Inc Acc	642.80	683.90	- 8.10	4.19
Higher Inc Inc	371.40	395.20	- 4.80	4.19
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	181.20	191.40	+ 0.30	6.05
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	88.11	93.07	+ 0.16	6.05
Nth America	253.70	269.90	+ 0.90	...
Far East	317.80	338.10	-14.70	0.20
Europe	258.40	274.90	+ 1.50	0.93
Brit Excell	67.98	72.80	- 0.41	3.23
Brit Fndmtls Acc	97.66	103.90	- 0.40	4.92
Brit Fndmtls Inc	71.61	76.19	- 0.27	4.92
Global Opps	79.11	84.17	- 0.54	0.42
Balanced Acc	51.55	53.50†	- 1.70	3.10
Balanced Inc	50.29	53.50†	- 0.41	3.10
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Int	125.70	133.40†	+ 0.10	7.80
High Inc Equity	153.10	163.70†	- 1.80	4.81
Worldwide Bond	256.20	273.90	+ 1.80	5.64
Capital Growth				
American Growth	267.90	287.00†	+ 0.30	.04
Asian Pacific	291.40	289.40	- 4.80	...
Assets & Earnings	246.30	262.00	- 2.90	2.96
Commdty & Energy	102.30	108.80	- 1.10	...
Euro Capital Inc	126.90	135.70	+ 0.70	.71
(Accum Units)	135.60	145.00	+ 0.80	.71
General	216.30	230.10	- 1.80	2.38
Japan	118.90	126.50	- 7.20	...
Mastertrust	132.70	141.90	- 1.80	1.75
Uk Growth Dist	115.40	123.40	- 0.50	2.80
US Emerging Cos	130.10	138.10	+ 0.80	...
Income & Growth	363.10	386.30	- 2.30	3.24
Ethical	64.92	69.06	- 0.23	2.97
International	108.00	114.90	- 1.80	1.11
Dividend & Growth	57.14	60.79†	- 0.66	4.62
Global Gwth & Inc	66.11	70.40	- 0.14	2.98
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
031 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	£16.26	£16.91	- 1.00	..
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 833 580				
Amer Inc & Growth	42.04	43.65	+ 0.02	0.71
Cash	50.27	50.27†	+ 0.04	4.49
European	107.10	111.90	+ 1.30	...
Exempt	938.30	£10.10†	+ 1.30	1.84
Extra Income #	47.17	49.62†	...	6.06
Far East Emg Eco	102.10	108.70	+ 0.20	0.57
Fixed Interest #	22.44	23.55†	+ 0.11	8.76
Fund Inv Tst	165.80	175.50	- 0.30	0.95
Japan	171.70	179.70	-18.70	...
Latin American	52.45	55.05	- 0.36	0.88
Pacific	65.34	68.86	- 0.65	0.38
Property Share	60.02	63.80†	- 0.13	2.17
UK Emerging Cos	69.95	63.98†	- 0.14	1.94
UK Growth	41.87	44.51	- 0.13	2.63
Amer World Port #	67.71	69.08	- 0.88	2.37
Ethical	58.40	62.42†	+ 0.53	2.82
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	46.76	46.76†	+ 0.02	7.69
AEGON UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
031 549 3232				
British Growth	66.12	70.34†	- 0.28	2.72
British Income	76.84	81.75†	- 0.39	3.44
Select Portfolio	81.42	86.62†	- 0.68	...
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
0452 305 958				
Amity Income	71.55	75.91	- 0.59	2.57
Income Builder Inc	64.91	69.05†	- 0.33	3.01
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC				
IFA dlg: 0793 618 366 Client dlg: 0793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	215.40	230.20	- 4.00	3.39
Capital	378.40	404.50	- 8.00	2.04
Balanced	637.40	681.30†	- 8.70	2.42
Accumulator	£11.72	£12.52	-21.60	3.24
Income Trusts				
American Income	45.41	48.54	- 0.02	3.67
High Income	366.70	392.00	- 7.20	3.94
Equity Income	207.10	221.30†	- 4.30	3.76
High Yield	223.30	238.70	- 4.40	3.64
Govt Securities	32.32	34.12†	- 0.03	6.21
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	136.10	145.40	- 0.50	0.48
European Growth	32.74	34.88	- 0.60	0.01
International	148.70	158.80†	- 3.40	0.21
Japan	197.40	210.20†	-11.20	0.01
Pacific	351.80	376.10†	-13.40	0.01
Secs of America	396.80	421.30†	- 2.90	0.55
Wrldw Asset Val	44.42	47.49	- 0.87	0.25
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	483.70	517.80†	- 8.70	2.47
Conv & Gilt	41.39	44.18	- 0.71	5.25
Smaller Cos	160.80	171.80†	+ 0.80	1.29
2nd Smaller Cos	153.50	164.80	+ 0.80	1.48
Recovery	127.30	136.00	- 1.10	2.93
Mkr Min & City	143.30	153.10	- 2.30	0.78
Ocean Earnings	322.90	345.10†	- 5.80	1.95
Technology	157.30	168.10	- 2.90	0.07
UK Special Sits	419.40	448.30	- 6.10	1.93
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0293 526 911				
Cobcbu Dst Pens	94.80	98.49	- 0.10	3.04
Founder Pers! Pens	59.44	61.75	- 0.80	2.38
BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 800 0833				
Capital	66.82	71.08†	- 0.34	1.97
International	61.18	65.08†	- 0.03	..
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
031 222 4242				
America	264.80	284.40	- 3.60	..
Bond	107.60	113.20†	+ 0.20	7.34
Brit Smlr Cos	93.43	99.39†	- 0.45	1.51
Conv & Gilt #	83.44	87.49	- 0.83	5.53
Europe	209.20	222.60	- 1.30	0.52
Euro Smlr Cos	95.14	101.50	- 0.50	0.61
Income Gwth	333.70	358.10†	- 1.70	4.45
Japan	298.80	317.40	-21.90	.
Latin American	67.48	71.79	- 1.63	...
Pacific	91.49	97.30	- 0.75	0.83
UK Smlr Cos	49.77	52.95†	- 0.39	1.31
Japan Fd	666.90	707.60	-38.50	...
Mngd Fd	163.50	173.80	- 1.50	3.03
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
071 489 8673				
Brit & Ovsas	261.90	276.70	- 1.20	1.33
Capital Gwth	104.00	109.50	- 0.30	2.45
Wrldw Opps	168.40	175.20	- 4.24	0.46
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD				
081 534 5544				
Balanced Trusts				
Bkr Inv Fd Inc	321.80	335.20	- 4.30	3.19
European Bd Inc	88.05	89.07†	+ 0.89	3.62
Exempt	69.49	74.13	- 0.63	4.44
Financial	68.11	72.85	+ 0.25	2.98
500.0	424.80	454.30	- 1.40	2.80
General	257.20	275.10	- 2.40	2.61
Property	247.10	264.20†	+ 0.10	0.30
Trustee	168.20	179.80†	- 9.80	2.60
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.20	100.20†	+ 0.10	5.22
Extra Income	111.10	118.90	- 0.90	4.30
Gilt & Fxd Int	55.70	57.67	+ 0.20	8.94
Income	487.00	520.80†	-14.70	4.33
Income Builder	60.23	64.07	- 0.29	4.92
Intl Income	58.21	61.93†	- 0.90	3.86
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	310.20	317.60	- 0.80	2.68
Leisure	114.80	122.80	- 0.80	1.70
Recovery	388.60	413.50	- 2.70	2.93
Smlr Cos Inc	42.15	45.20	- 0.12	2.03
Special Sits	260.90	278.10	- 1.20	1.74
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	119.30	126.60	- 0.20	0.74
Aust Acc	234.20	249.20	+ 3.80	2.29
Aust Inc	144.10	153.30†	+ 2.30	2.29
Euro Gwth Inc	143.10	151.70	+ 0.50	0.77
(Accum Units)	153.10	162.40	+ 0.60	0.77
Japan & Gen Inc	169.80	179.70	-18.10	...
(Accum Units)	171.70	181.80	-18.20	.
Japan Spec Sits	77.96	82.58	- 5.62	.
Usw Tech Inc	74.52	79.19	- 1.19	0.05
Worldwide	156.30	165.90†	- 2.30	0.89
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD				
081 658 6602				
American Growth	88.65	94.12	+ 0.89	
Amer Smlr Cos	124.20	133.80	+ 1.30	..
Convertibles	52.98	56.64†	- 0.23	5.70
Eastern	230.80	247.30	- 2.90	0.10
Equity Income	83.85	89.20	+ 0.07	4.80
European Growth	281.90	298.90	+ 3.10	1.00
Europe	209.40	222.80	+ 2.30	0.20
German Growth	70.67	74.86	+ 0.70	0.50
Global Bond	59.84	63.01†	+ 0.26	6.20
Global Growth	118.10	123.80	- 0.50	.
Japan Growth	196.10	209.20	- 4.90	
Japan Smlr Cos	173.80	184.40	- 5.80	..
Korea Trust	73.83	82.23	- 0.50	.
Portfolio	122.60	131.30	- 0.40	1.80
(Accum Units)	223.80	233.80	- 0.60	1.80
UK Growth	78.83	83.86	- 0.21	1.40
UK Smaller Cos	81.56	87.22	- 1.41	1.80
Select Managers	69.86	74.86	- 0.29	1.10
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
071 250 3300				
Intl Gwth Port Inc	71.65	76.12†	- 0.28	.
Special Oppor Inc	50.92	54.17	+ 0.41	
BREWIN DOLPHIN UT MGRS LTD				
071 236 6441				
Special Sits	161.80	173.00	- 3.00	1.03
Dividend	80.19	85.67	- 1.82	4.03
Intl Gth & Inc	200.70	214.60†	- 1.90	3.24
Uk & Gen	41.84	44.75	- 0.54	2.46
Fund of Funds	60.22	64.41	- 0.27	...
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD				
041 223 6020				
Balanced Growth	98.86	104.61	- 0.71	1.07
(Accum Units)	111.13	117.60	- 0.79	1.97
Smaller Cos	98.34	105.12	- 0.39	1.20
Higher Yield #	41.70	44.12†	- 0.17	4.69
American Gth Inc	68.52	73.57	- 0.07	
European Growth	130.82	138.43	+ 1.80	.
(Accum Units)	133.39	141.16	+ 1.82	.
Global Bond Inc #	25.78	28.71	+ 0.07	7.63
Mngd Ptflo Inc	39.58	41.87	- 0.22	1.60
(Accum Units)	40.14	42.46	- 0.22	1.60
Int Spec Opps	108.21	114.51	- 4.56	
Pacific Grth	111.60	118.18	- 2.59	
Formerly LAS				
UK General #	69.79	73.85†	- 0.42	3.73
(Accum Units) #	71.47	75.62	- 0.44	3.73
Japan	58.28	62.73†	- 4.05	..
Gilt & Fixed Int #	92.58	94.88	+ 0.14	7.53
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
071 490 7218				
Short Dated Gilt	64.49	66.32	+ 0.05	6.31
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
061 837 5060				
Environ	145.00	154.30†	- 1.00	1.70
UK Growth	156.30	166.30	- 1.10	2.48
UK Income	125.80	133.70	- 0.80	4.57
CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0707 651 122				
Can Gen Dist	174.70	185.20†	- 3.80	2.14
-do- Income Dist	104.10	110.48	- 0.30	4.53
(Accum Units)	314.30	333.10	- 0.90	4.53
Gilt & Fxd Int	39.17	41.52	+ 0.61	6.55
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
061 236 5685 Enq: 061 236 5685 Dlg: 061 236 5392				
American & Gen	143.40	152.80	+ 1.20	.
European Inc	74.46	78.61	+ 1.10	0.51
Smaller Cos (4-1)	74.72	79.49	- 2.86	2.67
Growth	395.40	420.70	+ 0.80	2.50
Income & Growth	374.80	398.80†	- 0.20	4.19
(Accum Units)	535.80	569.20	- 2.60	4.19
Japan & Gen	69.24	73.49	- 4.31	.
Master Portfolio	£97.17	£100.93†	-52.80	2.07
(Accum Units)	£115.95	£120.44	-62.00	2.07
Special Sits	88.82	95.55†	+ 0.08	2.52
High Yield	£12.18	£12.53	-14.00	4.70
For Capital House see Newton				
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
071 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	78.79	83.39†	- 0.44	2.95
American Portfolio	84.71	90.30	- 0.65	1.26

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
European Portfolio	92.92	98.94	+ 1.31	0.88
Japanese Portfolio	62.31	66.15†	- 3.53	...
Pacific Portfolio	127.82	137.45	- 0.38	0.04
UK Inc & Growth	72.00	77.28	- 0.50	3.39
Utility & Bond	53.66	54.22	- 0.57	6.96
CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG				
071 588 1815				
Inv Fund	645.05	651.10	...	4.75
Fxd Int Sec	147.10	147.45	...	9.83
CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
071 332 5000				
UK General Tst	59.86	63.45†	- 0.19	3.13
COIF-CHARITIES OFFICIAL INV FD				
071 588 1815				
Inc	636.32	648.19	.	4.86
Accum	£27.23	£27.26	.	...
Fixed Int Inc	119.50	119.75	..	9.69
Fixed Int Acc	165.16	165.45	..	.
CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD				
071 837 7667				
Intl Growth	116.58	127.20†	- 0.91	
UK Income	103.79	112.95†	- 0.19	5.32
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
071 407 5966				
Buckmaster Intl	73.07	77.43	+ 0.47	1.56
Buck Bio-Tech	24.60	27.46†	+ 0.56	..
Accm Ethical Tst	145.30	152.95†	- 0.37	0.73
City Fin Assets	65.05	69.20	+ 0.13	1.29
City Fin America	80.60	84.99	+ 0.08	.
City Fin Intl	71.71	75.48	- 1.42	0.96
City Fin Japan	162.57	171.07†	- 6.32	.
Friars Hse Cap	259.53	280.84†	+ 0.18	1.95
Friars Hse Inc	186.95	196.88	- 1.12	4.15
Buckley Wrld Gwth	122.14	129.94	- 0.71	0.09
Fairmount Cap Gth	131.11	139.40	+ 0.36	.
Fairmount Intl	144.0	153.19	+ 0.75	..
City Fin Pfflo Inc	50.86	54.21†	- 0.13	4.43
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
071 711 0771 Admin: 0277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	51.99	54.74	- 0.75	
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0800 373 393				
American Gwth	53.22	56.92	+ 0.24	.
Atlas Mngd Gwth	33.84	36.19	- 0.37	0.48
Dragon Growth	58.57	63.71	- 0.84	0.57
Equity High Inc	77.85	82.82	- 0.28	4.20
(Accum Units)	104.68	111.38	- 0.28	4.20
European Gwth	48.61	51.07	+ 0.34	0.88
Evergreen	26.92	28.79	+ 0.06	..
General Equity	78.53	83.32	- 0.03	2.74
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	23.60	24.80†	- 0.01	8.66
Japan Growth	48.41	51.78	- 3.46	...
Pedigree Gwth	47.53	50.56	- 0.03	2.76
Pref Sm Cos Inc	28.84	30.68	- 0.14	1.23
(Accum Units)	29.97	31.88	- 0.14	1.23
Retirement Inc #	24.58	26.15	- 0.05	0.08
Special Sits	35.67	37.95	- 0.16	2.13
UK & Overseas	44.45	47.29	- 0.57	1.49
COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD				
0634 898 000				
Capital	62.25	66.57	- 0.42	2.39
Income	56.99	60.95	- 0.21	4.33
COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD				
081 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	147.49	156.90	- 0.84	5.72
Fixed & Convertible	38.43	40.88†	- 0.09	7.49
Monthly Inc Plus	47.05	50.05	+ 0.04	8.95
Preference Share	45.68	48.57†	- 0.87	7.81
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	115.12	122.47†	- 0.53	7.61
Managed Fund	62.97	66.99	- 0.63	3.15
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	36.89	39.24	- 0.24	1.73
(Accum Units)	42.21	44.90	- 0.27	1.73
UK & General	72.69	77.33	- 0.43	2.87
(Accum Units)	90.97	96.78	- 0.54	2.87
UK Growth	130.86	139.00	- 0.84	2.46
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	181.66	193.25	+ 0.63	0.26
Far Eastern Gth	117.43	124.93	- 5.88	..
Global Bond	74.63	79.31	+ 0.17	6.39
Japan Growth	115.17	122.52	- 7.67	...
North Amer Gth	154.69	164.58	- 0.54	..
Oriental Growth	66.69	70.95	+ 0.29	..
Worldwide Growth	60.62	64.49	- 0.98	0.08
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.82	92.82	+ 0.08	5.25
Homeowners Fund	71.94	76.53	- 0.46	1.97
Quilter Fund	118.73	126.31	- 0.59	3.10
CONFEDERATION FUNDS MGMT LTD				
0438 744 840				
Growth Inc	54.22	57.68†	- 0.32	3.20
(Accum Units)	58.73	62.47	- 0.34	3.20
High Income	31.83	33.86	- 0.12	4.90
Japan	33.85	36.02	- 2.15	...
Smaller Cos Inc	29.04	30.89	- 0.07	2.60
Smaller Cos	30.75	32.71	- 0.07	2.60
North American	30.93	32.90	- 0.02	0.60
European	35.34	37.59	+ 0.22	0.60
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
071 407 5966				
Consistent UT	29.63	31.81	- 0.09	3.40
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 526 350				
Growth	138.30	147.28	+ 1.70	2.03
Income	65.96	70.18†	- 2.40	5.27
European	58.42	62.15	+ 0.28	1.18
Recovery	142.80	152.00	- 1.30	2.07
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
071 280 9494				
Equity Dist	776.00	780.80†	+ 2.50	3.84
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD				
0277 690 370				
Fellowship Tst	68.33	72.69	- 0.12	1.36
Income #	222.80	237.10	- 0.30	4.90
(Accum Units) #	548.90	583.98	- 0.80	4.90
Smaller Cos	149.09	158.50	+ 0.10	0.61
(Accum Units)	182.10	193.70	+ 0.10	0.61
Inv Portfolio	73.24	77.91	- 0.49	1.53
High Inc Port #	64.62	68.74	...	5.05
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
071 410 0177				
Euro Small Cos	£14.89	£15.26	- 5.50	..
Japan Small Cos	£12.02	£12.25	-31.80	.
UK Small Cos	£17.10	£17.88†	+ 1.30	..
US Small Cos	£15.63	£16.05	+15.40	..
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
071 377 8819				
Disc Inc	193.80	204.00	..	2.83
DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
031 315 2500				
European Gwth	261.80	278.60	+ 3.30	1.00
New Asia	183.80	195.90	- 4.40	0.17
Japan Growth	114.80	122.10	- 5.70	..
Jap Smlr Co	479.30	509.50	-16.80	...
Nth Amer	248.40	263.50	+ 2.10	0.98
Smllr Asia Pac Mkt	104.60	110.80	+ 0.30	0.41
UK Inc & Gth	198.40	211.80	- 0.10	3.14
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD				
0242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	130.10	138.40†	- 1.00	1.94
UK High Inc Inc	138.70	147.50	- 1.50	4.88
(Accum Units)	177.60	188.90	- 1.90	4.88
UK Pref & F I Inc	55.61	58.03†	+ 0.05	5.31
Emerged Opps	78.57	83.58	- 1.44	1.12
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 660 526				
American	114.80	121.80	- 0.30	1.44
Convertibles #	19.62	20.85†	- 0.05	6.71
Equity Income #	117.80	125.39†	- 0.70	4.23
EuroFund	42.79	45.44†	+ 0.01	0.44
Financial	40.73	43.28	- 0.42	1.73
Growth & Inc #	219.20	232.90	- 0.90	3.81
High Dist #	143.60	152.60	- 0.70	4.91
International	350.80	372.70	- 4.00	0.13
Inv Cap Inc	86.30	92.13†	- 0.46	2.98
Latin American	30.38	32.26	- 0.83	
Pacific	71.88	76.37	- 1.62	
Preference Share	21.70	23.06†	+ 0.04	7.16
Tokyo	212.90	226.20	-14.90	.
UK Smaller Cos	214.30	227.70	- 0.60	1.21
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
071 242 0242				
Ebor Trust	199.25	212.63		1.97
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
071 373 7261				
Endurance Fd	187.30	199.30	- 2.30	0.57
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0296 431 480				
European	75.33	79.29	- 0.14	1.79
Ethical Tst	41.45	43.63†	- 1.00	1.44
Far Eastern	271.75	286.05	- 5.48	2.15
High Income	121.75	128.16	- 2.00	5.08
Intl Growth	111.27	117.13	- 1.69	1.34
North American	102.53	107.93	- 0.78	1.36
Pelican	108.03	113.72	- 2.06	3.37
Smaller Cos	64.90	68.32†	- 1.32	2.69
Special Sits	83.13	87.51	- 0.44	2.66
Tst of Inv Tsts	172.02	181.07	- 1.92	1.81
EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD				
071 407 5966				
Smaller Cos Inc	195.61	203.78	- 2.16	1.44
Smaller Cos Acc	342.35	356.54	- 3.67	1.44
Recovery	49.98	52.06	- 0.89	1.36
Recovery Acc	50.52	52.62	- 0.88	1.36
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0392 412 144				
Balanced	106.58	113.38	+ 0.16	6.13
Capital Growth	76.12	81.63	+ 0.08	.
Fd of Inv Tsts	41.73	44.51†	- 0.42	0.65
High Income #	41.25	44.21†	+ 0.09	10.40
Warrant	51.00	55.43	- 0.46	..
Zero Preference	36.47	38.89†	+ 0.21	.
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
0273 220 797				
Family Accum Tst	72.21	76.82†	- 0.45	2.54
Family Income Tst	45.88	45.88†	- 0.26	6.14
Family Trust	81.23	86.41†	+ 1.75	1.20
United Charities	250.10	266.10	- 1.00	3.39
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD				
Callfree: Private Clients 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	...	5.50
Bond Funds				
Gilt & Fxd Int	26.27	26.39†	+ 0.09	7.89
Intl Bond	26.98	27.99	- 0.09	5.50
Income Funds				
High Income	23.98	25.15†	- 0.43	5.23
Income Plus	104.10	110.70	- 1.90	4.37
Amer Eq Inc	44.18	45.79†	- 0.37	2.27
European Income	40.14	42.86	+ 0.35	1.86
Far East Inc	68.49	62.25	- 0.98	2.16
Global Convertible	21.91	22.96†	- 0.37	3.84
UK Div Gth	22.82	24.27	- 0.05	2.01
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	54.06	57.67	- 0.34	...
American	225.60	240.20	...	..
Amer Spec Sits	108.50	115.60	+ 0.30	.
Japan Smaller Cos	38.49	40.97	- 2.35	
European	160.80	171.10	+ 0.60	
European Opps	60.03	63.83	+ 0.42	
Global Pwr	23.04	24.55	+ 0.07	1.14
UK Growth	63.54	66.83	- 0.93	.
Growth & Inc	131.00	139.30†	- 0.30	2.53
Intl PEP	34.39	38.57	- 0.17	..
Japan Spec Sits	89.90	94.65	- 4.13	..
Japan	185.20	197.30	-11.20	
Managed Intl	257.50	274.10	- 3.10	
Moneybuilder	49.66	52.81	- 0.41	...
Recovery	44.59	47.84	- 0.28	
South E Asia	125.60	134.80	+ 0.80	.
Special Sits	474.40	504.50	- 8.40	..
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	107.87	107.87	+ 0.09	5.50
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD				
071 814 2700				
Balanced #	129.20	132.60	- 0.80	1.61
Inc Ptflo #	80.07	81.64	- 0.66	4.09
Cap Ptflo	132.78	134.70†	- 1.50	0.77
General Opps	116.10	118.10	...	3.55
Growth Inc	28.29	28.90	- 0.17	1.86
Private Portfolio	381.80	389.00	+ 0.10	1.52
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT				
Enq: 071 454 1434 Dlg: 0277 261 010				
Hypo Foreign & Colonial				
European	105.50	112.60	+ 1.08	0.60
Emrg Asian	150.28	160.60	- 8.10	
High Income	20.65	21.94†	- 0.03	10.26
Ostas Income	85.15	91.18†	- 0.51	3.53

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Growth	100.20	107.30†	- 0.50	1.71
UK Income	98.36	104.80	- 0.50	3.81
US Smaller Cos	283.10	302.80	- 1.30	0.12
FOSTER & BRAITHWAITE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
071 407 5966				
High Inc Eqty	45.28	47.61†	- 0.34	3.42
-do- Inv Tst Inc	71.05	74.71	- 0.21	4.42
Intl Growth	64.10	67.40	- 0.56	1.33
Investment Trust	84.66	89.02	- 0.36	...
UK Smaller Cos	76.99	80.96†	- 0.11	0.93
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
071 374 4100				
American Growth	52.79	56.34	+ 0.22	..
(Accum Units)	52.79	56.34	+ 0.22	..
Amer Smlr Cos	447.10	478.10	+ 3.70	..
(Accum Units)	456.80	488.50	+ 3.90	..
Capital Tst	295.80	314.60	- 2.80	1.61
(Accum Units)	422.40	449.20	- 3.80	1.61
Cont Smlr Cos	56.21	60.39	+ 0.44	0.69
(Accum Units)	59.11	63.51	+ 0.46	0.69
Convertible	129.90	138.60†	- 0.30	5.87
(Accum Units)	244.60	260.20†	- 0.50	5.87
Emerging Markets	65.03	69.47†	- 1.09	..
(Accum Units)	65.09	69.53†	- 1.09	..
European	111.80	119.00	+ 1.00	0.15
(Accum Units)	117.10	124.70	+ 1.20	0.15
Extra Income	311.20	331.00†	- 4.70	4.09
(Accum Units)	467.30	497.20†	+ 0.40	4.09
Financial	112.80	121.20	+ 0.10	6.30
(Accum Units)	118.60	127.60	+ 0.10	6.30
Gilt Trust	60.38	62.27	+ 0.21	6.37
(Accum Units)	94.32	96.96	+ 0.29	6.37
Health Fund Inc	123.80	132.20	+ 0.40	
(Accum Units)	123.80	132.20	+ 0.40	..
Income & Growth	179.40	190.80	- 0.50	3.32
(Accum Units)	270.90	288.20	- 0.60	3.32
Intl Growth	338.55	362.60	- 3.50	...
(Accum Units)	375.80	402.60	- 3.90	.
Japan & Gen	167.70	179.50	- 9.90	..
(Accum Units)	169.40	181.40	- 9.90	..
Managed Pox Inc	98.42	103.60	- 0.40	0.46
(Accum Units)	104.40	109.80	- 0.40	0.46
Monthly Income	155.80	165.60†	+ 0.40	4.05
Quarterly Income	50.05	53.23	- 0.11	4.81
(Accum Units)	53.22	56.61	- 0.12	4.81
Recovery	322.50	344.80†	- 0.70	0.13
(Accum Units)	379.70	406.00†	- 0.60	0.13
UK Growth	50.41	53.82	+ 0.09	2.79
(Accum Units)	52.14	55.67	+ 0.09	2.79
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealing: 0705 881339 Enqs: 0705 881340				
FP Equity Dist	354.40	377.86	- 3.20	2.87
-do- Accum	748.60	796.30	- 6.70	2.87
FP Euro Gth Dist	135.90	144.50	+ 1.00	0.35
-do- Accum	141.60	150.60	+ 1.00	0.35
FP Fixed Int Dist	127.40	134.60†	...	7.51
-do- Accum	233.60	246.80†	+ 0.10	7.51
FP Intl Gth Dist	85.12	90.55†	- 0.77	0.63
-do- Accum	89.13	94.81†	- 0.69	0.63
FP Nth Amer Dist	175.00	185.30†	+ 0.40	1.19
-do- Accum	192.80	204.20†	+ 0.50	1.19
FP Pac Basin Dist	281.10	299.00†	- 7.10	0.24
-do- Accum	286.80	305.10†	- 7.20	0.24
FP Income	50.23	53.57†	- 0.30	4.32
(Accum Units)	162.70	173.50	- 1.00	4.32
FP Jap Smlr Cos	351.20	374.60	-22.50	0.0
FP Monthly Dist	67.80	72.14	- 0.18	8.15
FP Stlg Deposit	108.30	108.20†	.	4.80
FP Tokyo	83.81	88.54	- 5.75	0.0
FP UK Growth	159.70	170.30	- 0.50	2.88
(Accum Units)	309.20	328.80	- 1.00	2.86
Stewardship Dist	310.70	330.50	- 3.50	2.07
-do- Accum	378.90	404.10	- 4.90	2.07
Stwdshp Inc Dist	68.38	72.74	- 0.52	3.84
-do- Accum	88.18	93.80	- 0.67	3.84
N Am Stshp Dist	91.68	97.53†	- 0.31	0.73
-do- Accum	97.39	103.60†	- 0.40	0.73
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Grwth Acc	102.70	109.20	- 0.90	0.76
Open Cap Gth Acc	104.90	111.50	- 0.10	0.17
Cap Gth Inc Inc	99.35	105.70	- 0.70	1.79
Cap Gth Inc Acc	101.60	107.40	- 0.70	1.79
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ic	102.00	108.50	- 0.40	1.77
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac	103.60	110.20	- 0.30	1.77
Mid Unit Trusts				
American	42.34	45.04	+ 0.29	1.22
Australian	308.40	328.70	+ 1.10	0.0
Conscience	66.08	70.59	- 0.67	0.85
European	191.80	203.80	+ 1.10	0.82
(Accum Units)	207.20	220.40	+ 1.20	0.82
Gilt & FI	55.36	58.55	- 0.06	6.58
Gold	49.14	52.83	+ 1.06	0.0
Intnl	29.08	31.58	- 0.32	0.94
(Accum Units)	43.49	46.40	- 0.46	0.94
Sing & Malaysian	221.80	237.80	- 4.70	0.0
Smaller Cos	28.63	30.78†	+ 0.02	1.74
Special Sits	33.76	36.30	- 0.22	1.86
US Smaller Cos	103.60	110.70	+ 0.40	0.0
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0345 581 198/7				
GANDA	219.70	232.40	- 2.50	2.61
Cash	49.68	50.46	+ 0.04	4.91
Growth Portfolio	71.57	75.97	- 1.18	1.07
Income Portfolio	59.81	63.25	- 0.25	4.70
GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
071 710 4567 Dealing: 071 626 9431				
Amer Spec Sits	174.30	186.50	+ 0.30	...
European	533.70	570.80	+ 5.00	0.48
Far East & Gen	238.60	255.20†	- 8.50	..
Germany	111.90	118.90	- 0.30	..
Income Inc	142.90	152.90	+ 0.60	4.74
(Accum Units)	151.30	161.90	+ 0.60	4.74
International	307.80	329.00	- 6.90	0.21
Intl Income	74.37	79.00†	+ 0.11	4.43
Japan & General	384.10	408.80	-15.90	..
Korean Securities	60.97	65.21	- 0.57	..
Smlr Cos Div Inc	44.20	47.28†	- 0.41	5.07
UK Capital (Inc)	157.90	168.90	+ 0.50	1.12
UK Spec Sits	78.46	83.94	- 0.89	0.73
US & General	127.20	135.50	+ 1.80	..
Wrlde Spec Sits	140.20	149.90	- 4.60	..
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS				
071 782 2000 Dlgs only: 0277 264 421				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	44.37	47.32	+ 0.03	2.51
Cash Trust	136.15	136.15†	+ 0.10	5.62
Practical Inv Inc #	108.65	116.20	- 0.42	3.54
(Accum Units) #	247.04	264.21	- 0.95	3.54
UK Index	137.94	140.90	- 0.47	3.27
UK Smaller Cos	115.10	123.10	- 0.12	1.09
Income Funds				
Preference Share	24.85	26.58†	- 0.45	9.29
High Income	31.70	33.90		5.28
UK Equity Income	129.71	138.73	- 0.18	3.70
Global Bond	27.04	28.01†	...	5.50
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	45.04	48.17	+ 0.13	0.17
Global Inc & Gth	124.23	132.29	- 1.09	2.38
Gold & Intl Res	103.98	111.21	- 4.37	0.08
Global Utilities	122.17	130.78†	- 0.55	1.28
Overseas Funds				
American	134.98	143.82	+ 0.35	1.24
European	94.89	100.85	+ 0.84	1.05
Euro Sel Opps	136.50	145.40	+ 1.61	..
Amer Emerging	94.51	101.08†	+ 1.26	..
Hong Kong	111.33	119.20	+ 0.52	2.10
Japan	231.23	245.59	-14.27	.
Pacific Growth	186.92	199.91	- 1.78	1.65
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	201.05	201.05†	- 0.74	2.15
Long Term Bal	219.40	219.40†	- 0.51	3.15
Med Term Bal	187.22	187.22†	- 0.32	3.72
UK Equity	226.25	226.25	- 0.44	2.59
UK Emerging Cos	134.68	134.68†	- 0.71	1.29
American	218.65	218.65	+ 0.10	1.69
Japan	128.47	128.47	- 6.93	...
European	245.65	245.65	+ 2.35	1.13
Index Linked Gilt	163.74	163.74†	+ 0.29	3.04
Fixed Interest	151.45	151.45	+ 0.81	6.97
Amer Emerging	243.23	243.23	+ 1.90	0.20
Pacific	203.07	203.07†	- 4.19	1.05
Emerging Mkts	132.45	132.45	+ 1.25	0.94
Index Strat Japan	159.06	150.86†	- 4.89	0.26
-do- Pacific Rim	160.32	160.32†	- 1.47	1.49
-do- Cont Europe	141.89	141.89†	+ 0.23	1.83
Index Strat USA	127.15	127.15†	+ 1.23	2.41
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	94.98	101.04	- 0.35	..
Med Term Bal	89.06	95.74	+ 0.83	...
Long Term Bal	98.27	105.67	+ 1.30	...
UK Equity	104.93	111.31	- 0.22	...
UK Emerging Cos	63.11	67.14	+ 1.69	...
American	101.38	107.85	+ 0.05	...
Japan	57.84	61.54	- 3.54	..
European	102.35	108.89	+ 1.04	..
Fixed Interest	76.62	81.51	+ 0.81	..
Index Linked Gilt	72.60	77.23	+ 0.14	..
Deposit	79.80	84.89	+ 0.06	..
Broker Unit Trusts				
Berkeley Intl Gth	113.19	120.30		
Berkeley Income	106.00	112.60†	..	2.02
BWH Intl	131.37	138.26	- 0.61	0.61
Brcoft Gilt Port Inc	58.04	61.26	- 0.16	1.25
-do- Inc Port Inc	54.04	57.03†	- 0.52	3.40
-do- Wrlde Port	50.90	53.72	- 0.28	0.50
Shaw Utilities	56.84	59.99	- 1.15	2.85
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT				
GAM Sterling Management 071 493 9990				
& Intl Inc	523.12	556.52†	+ 5.48	1.50
(Accum Units)	580.77	617.84	+ 6.07	1.50
European Inc	137.27	146.03†	+ 1.66	0.85
Amalgam Inc	138.52	147.72	- 2.26	.
N America Inc	329.07	349.50	+ 5.28	.
Far East Inc	325.49	346.27	- 5.19	..
(Accum Units)	337.11	358.63	- 5.38	..
UK Dvdd Inc	167.50	178.19	+ 1.04	1.40
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD				
071 378 7979 Dealing: 071 407 7886				
UK Equity Inc	82.85	87.23†	- 0.86	4.71
UK Small Cos	45.57	48.74	- 0.27	1.91
British Growth	59.65	62.85	+ 0.23	2.57
American Gwth	161.27	172.48†	+ 0.68	...
Japan Gwth	74.36	79.55†	- 4.30	...
Greater China	170.82	182.69	- 2.86	.
Pacific Strategy	147.14	157.37	- 6.58	.
European Gwth	81.18	86.82	+ 0.26	0.29
Intl Growth	135.97	145.42†	- 1.61	..
US Index (E)	12.76	13.45	- 0.10	4.00
FT-SE Mid 250 Ind	70.59	74.78	- 0.96	2.28
Monthly Income	35.51	37.86†	- 0.49	10.09
MIS Unit Trust Dealing: 071 865 0033				
Gnd UK Index (E)	9.46	9.98	- 0.19	3.60
GRANVILLE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
071 488 1212				
Small Cos	88.26	93.50†	- 1.13	1.52
GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD				
071 538 9888				
Cash	137.80	137.88	+ 0.10	3.85
European	459.20	488.50†	+ 4.90	0.11
Gilt & Fixed	123.80	131.40	..	5.34
Growth Equity	305.10	325.90	- 5.70	2.01
Income Tust	121.40	129.70†	- 1.20	3.05
International	169.70	180.20	- 2.30	...
Japan Trust	122.70	131.00†	- 7.80	..
Nth American	244.80	261.50	+ 0.70	0.16
Pacific	485.80	518.80	- 4.70	
Scottish	455.90	487.00	- 5.50	2.80
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD				
071 522 2120				
EMU Trust	98.44	102.15	+ 1.11	6.56
Global High Inc	97.53	101.20	+ 0.80	6.75
Prem Fixed Int	99.17	102.94	+ 0.45	8.52
Eqty & Bond Inc	97.60	103.77†	- 0.12	5.18
European Growth	97.94	104.13	+ 0.76	.
Intl PEP Trust	56.59	60.16	+ 0.13	.
High Income	114.51	121.75	- 1.76	4.28
-do- Accum	156.65	166.55	- 2.41	4.28
Recovery	358.00	380.70	- 1.90	1.63
(Accum Units)	410.90	436.90	- 2.30	1.63
St Vinc High Inc	121.56	123.38	+ 0.27	7.11
Tmp Bar Emrs Co	237.60	252.70	+ 1.00	1.49
Tmp Bt Sm Co In	336.90	342.20†	-14.80	2.14
Glob Prtc Tst	89.47	95.12	+ 0.74	1.52
(Accum Units)	90.31	96.02	+ 0.75	1.52
Inc Share Tst	87.64	93.18	+ 0.15	8.84
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 690 390				
Model Ptflo	189.30	200.80	- 0.80	2.71
Smaller Cos	31.40	33.40	- 0.07	0.87
HENDERSON TOUCHE REMNANT				
Enquiries: 0277 263 280 Dealing: 0277 264 772				
UK Funds				
Special Sits	276.94	296.32	...	1.27
Best of British	59.56	63.31	- 0.29	2.17
UK Smaller Cos	118.61	127.72	- 0.25	1.48
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth	258.58	275.37†	- 0.57	3.69
(Accum Units)	695.07	740.22	- 1.54	3.69
High Income #	301.71	322.92†	- 2.93	4.14
Extra Income #	263.97	280.62†	- 0.62	6.04
Pref & Gilt	44.91	48.20†	- 0.72	9.01
International Funds				
International	250.88	267.02	- 2.54	0.45
Global Bond	51.07	54.32†	+ 0.12	5.49
Family of Funds	77.74	83.13†	- 0.22	0.15

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Global Tech	147.99	158.27	- 1.36	...
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	154.39	165.90†	- 1.08	0.41
European	448.60	475.42	+ 3.78	0.56
European Income	77.43	82.83	+ 0.61	2.79
Euro Smlr Cos	143.76	153.99	- 0.02	0.10
Eur Sp Sits	67.55	71.88	+ 0.47	0.05
(Accum Units)	72.37	76.98	+ 0.51	0.05
Japan Trust	208.73	223.16†	-13.11	...
Japan Special Sits	238.47	253.93	-12.24	..
Pacific Emrk Cos	235.29	250.30	- 7.10	...
North American	223.34	237.21†	- 9.20	0.57
American Smaller	100.72	107.86	+ 0.81	...
Henderson TR Pension Portfolio				
American Growth	53.53	56.74	+ 0.43	..
Eur Sp Sits	58.23	61.72	+ 0.41	...
General Growth	40.64	43.07	- 0.19	.
Global Tech	57.96	61.37	- 0.52	.
Income Growth	39.98	42.39	- 0.08	...
Japan Growth	25.68	27.22	- 1.58	..
Smaller Cos	21.28	22.47	- 0.04	..
Special Opps	28.21	29.90	- 0.05	...
Wrlde Sp Sits	45.74	48.48	- 0.43	.
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS				
081 686 4355				
British	91.66	98.03	- 0.60	1.90
Capital	162.10	173.50	- 1.30	1.54
Dollar	323.40	345.80	+ 0.80	0.03
Enterprise Gth	310.00	331.60	- 2.80	1.94
European	212.20	226.80	- 1.10	0.40
Far East	284.10	303.80†	- 2.80	0.01
Financial	739.60	791.40	- 1.50	1.61
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	24.43	25.49†	- 0.25	7.76
High Yield	98.46	105.30	- 0.20	4.16
Income & Growth	134.30	143.60	- 0.38	3.62
International	236.20	252.60†	- 3.30	...
Japanese General	198.90	212.70†	-11.00	...
Japan Tech	80.82	86.43†	- 4.34	...
Nat Resources	70.67	75.58	- 0.65	..
Portfolio	68.21	72.95	- 0.37	1.44
Smaller Cos	120.80	129.10	+ 0.69	1.57
Special Sits	141.40	151.20	- 0.30	1.71
UK Emerging Cos	88.53	94.68	+ 0.15	0.99
US Smaller Cos	79.71	85.25	+ 0.90	...
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Advisers: 0800 181 380 Inv: 0800 289 505				
UK Funds				
Balanced #	95.11	101.50	+ 0.10	6.87
Capital	548.79	585.00	+ 3.60	2.56
Income #	522.80	558.10†	- 0.10	5.24
Footsie Fund	49.56	52.40†	- 0.13	2.68
Trkdx Index	105.20	112.30	+ 1.20	2.81
UK Index	128.70	137.40†	- 0.80	3.26
International Funds				
American Growth	462.80	493.90	+ 1.80	0.84
American Index	189.70	202.10	+ 0.20	1.29
European Growth	106.50	113.70†	+ 0.70	0.82
Eurotrack 100	149.40	158.90	+ 1.00	0.89
Global Bond	19.77	20.87†	+ 0.02	8.10
Japan Growth	264.50	281.90	-20.20	...
Japan Index	76.65	81.80	- 4.85	0.04
Japan Smllr Cos	34.93	37.20	- 1.56	...
International High Growth Funds				
Asian	48.09	51.31†	+ 0.17	0.22
Hong Kong Gwth	79.43	84.77	+ 0.48	1.18
Spore & Mlysa Gth	64.90	69.28	- 1.01	...
Tiger Index	178.30	190.30	+ 0.30	0.24
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD				
071 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	28.86	29.95	- 0.11	1.10
General Funds				
Managed	67.31	69.86	- 0.72	2.06
Rapid Cptl Fnd	78.92	81.91	- 0.25	2.52
UK Growth	55.60	57.71	- 0.28	2.46
High Income Funds				
Cashbox (Dist)	50.71	50.71	+ 0.04	4.88
Cashbox (Acc)	58.89	58.89	+ 0.04	4.88
UK Extra Inc	80.34	83.98†	- 2.16	6.40
Gilt & Fixed Int	25.37	26.15†	+ 0.04	7.88
UK Inc & Gwth	37.77	39.28	- 0.14	4.14
UK Income	314.40	326.30	- 1.70	3.62
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	46.32	47.97	- 0.18	0.50
Amer Smllr Cos	110.80	115.60	+ 2.60	...
(Accum Units)	112.10	116.30	+ 2.70	...
Europe Gth	143.70	148.80	+ 0.70	...
(Accum Units)	148.50	153.80	+ 0.70	...
Euro Smaller Cos	26.89	27.91	+ 0.04	
French Growth	70.22	72.88	- 0.70	0.33
Accum Units	75.23	78.06	- 0.61	0.33
H Kong & China	64.96	67.42†	- 1.21	1.97
Intl Growth	53.91	55.95	- 0.92	0.56
(Accum Units)	54.95	56.42	- 0.92	0.56
Japan Gth	32.34	33.56	- 2.69	..
Accum Units	32.34	33.56	- 2.80	...
Japan Smaller Cos	40.94	42.49	- 2.54	...
Glob Emg Mkts	90.40	93.83	- 1.33	...
Accum Units	91.05	94.50	- 1.33	...
SE Asia	280.10	290.70	- 3.47	0.30
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond	50.97	52.51	- 0.26	6.18
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD				
071 581 3020				
American Cap	126.40	134.40	- 3.50	...
Income	141.00	149.99†	+ 0.88	3.99
UK Growth	51.52	54.80†	+ 0.15	0.98

New Singer & Friedlander UK Emerging Leaders Fund.

If you're looking for big growth potential from UK Smaller Companies:

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	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
International	73.12	77.70†	- 0.93	0.29
Ecology	76.72	81.61	- 0.82	1.32
European	115.23	122.35	+ 0.05	...
Far Eastern	283.80	301.90	- 2.38	...
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealers: 071 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Extra Income	46.59	49.56†	- 0.46	7.77
Gilt Yield	111.70	117.80†	...	6.79
Global Income	200.10	212.90	- 3.60	4.27
High Yield	129.20	137.50†	- 1.50	6.43
(Accum Units)	393.80	415.70†	- 4.90	6.43
Smllr Cos Div	49.60	52.77	- 0.04	3.01
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smllr Cos	82.39	88.29†	- 1.07	..
North American	70.64	75.15†	- 0.29	0.17
European Special	103.40	110.00	- 0.40	0.14
European	144.40	153.60†	- 0.90	0.39
(Accum Units)	189.70	201.80†	- 1.00	0.39
General	256.00	272.30†	- 1.80	3.33
Japan	400.10	425.60	-23.40	...
Japanese Special	235.40	250.40	-13.50	..
Master Accum	223.10	237.30	- 3.80	0.58
Pacific	303.20	322.70	- 9.30	...
(Accum Units)	355.70	378.40	-11.00	...
Smaller Cos	104.80	111.50	- 0.40	0.62
UK Equity Growth	37.27	39.65	- 0.58	1.70
KNIGHT WILLIAMS PRTFOL MGRS				
071 629 1965				
Global Inc & Gth	58.04	61.74	- 0.50	...
Inv Trust	62.01	67.03	- 0.84	..
Cautious Inc/Gth	55.51	59.05	+ 0.28	1.30
High Inc Acc	53.91	56.71	- 0.15	3.90
L & C UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
071 588 2868				
Income	558.10	561.30†	-15.50	5.28
Intl & General	392.50	409.50†	- 5.80	0.01
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT				
071 407 5966				
Bridge Income	249.37	264.22	- 1.40	5.60
Inc & Growth Inc	53.13	56.52†	- 0.07	4.79
Smaller Cos	53.36	56.79	- 0.33	1.44
LAURENTIAN UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0452 371 500 Dlg: 0452 371 623				
Growth Trust	232.40	247.20†	+ 0.80	2.20
High Income	101.70	108.10†	- 0.60	4.47
International	92.83	98.81	- 0.34	0.61
Recovery Trust	59.69	63.50	+ 0.29	1.60
European Trust	78.42	83.42	+ 0.38	1.05
Japanese Trust	41.93	44.60	- 2.34	..
American Trust	81.85	87.07	+ 0.68	..
Managed	64.02	68.10	- 0.24	0.56
Cash	51.23	51.23	+ 0.03	4.81
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
071 374 0818				
UK Cap	342.20	348.40	- 1.50	2.64
UK Inc/Gth	369.00	374.70	- 1.20	3.46
UK Income	258.80	263.20	- 0.60	4.40
UK Sm Cos	223.00	238.20	+ 0.26	2.00
Euro Gwth	120.20	121.10	+ 0.50	...
N Amer Gwth	77.35	78.12	+ 1.25	0.12
Japan Growth	65.15	65.65	- 2.16	...
Money Mkt	121.67	121.97	..	1.520
LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD				
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 690 395				
Equity Dist	444.20	472.50	- 2.10	2.77
(Accum Units)	873.70	929.50	- 4.10	2.77
Equity Income	92.11	97.99†	- 0.35	4.17
UK Tactical Allocn	52.61	55.85†	- 0.21	3.18
European	109.60	116.50	+ 0.40	0.97
Far Eastern	208.30	221.60	- 8.90	..
Fixed Interest	49.67	52.84†	+ 0.05	6.99
Gilt	85.75	90.93	+ 0.04	6.77
Global Growth	71.54	76.11	- 1.74	0.11
Intl Bond	50.08	53.20	- 0.09	5.38
Japanese	70.86	75.38	- 5.63	..
North American	139.80	146.80†	- 0.50	1.09
Pacific Growth	98.98	105.30	- 1.70	0.20
UK Index	58.73	61.96	- 0.23	3.26
UK Recovery	86.41	91.93	- 0.32	1.83
UK Smaller Cos	116.40	123.80†	- 0.70	1.53
US Index	35.39	39.71†	+ 0.21	1.89
European Index	70.33	74.29	+ 0.44	1.62
Japan Index	40.10	42.32	- 2.27	..
Worldwide	79.11	84.16	- 1.07	1.43
LINCOLN NATIONAL				
081 992 8876 Dealing: 0800 282 821				
Growth	47.28	50.57†	- 0.13	2.17
Income	55.63	59.62†	- 0.40	2.98
Far East	50.02	53.50	- 1.86	..
North American	87.59	93.68	+ 0.46	..
Global	86.01	91.99	- 2.18	0.25
European	82.90	88.66	+ 0.69	0.34
Japan	104.20	114.40	- 3.20	..
Intl Currency Bd	55.45	58.82	- 0.24	5.73
SE Asia	93.64	100.16	- 0.60	..
UK Cap Growth	87.96	94.07	+ 0.28	1.51
LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
Helpdesk: 0634 834 339 Dealing: 0634 834 313				
Balanced	322.50	343.10	+ 0.80	3.03
-do- Acc	733.40	780.30	+ 2.20	3.03
Contl Euro Gth	60.43	63.66	+ 0.17	0.77
-do- Acc	64.62	68.03	+ 0.19	0.77
Extra Inc	244.10	259.70	+ 1.50	4.25
-do- Acc	633.80	674.30	+ 3.90	4.25
German Gth	121.10	127.50	+ 0.40	0.31

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
-do- Acc	127.00	133.70	+ 0.50	0.31
Growth Port	515.40	548.30	- 4.50	0.25
-do- Acc	524.00	557.50	- 4.50	0.25
Income	456.20	485.80	+ 2.90	3.90
-do- Acc	£12.52	£13.32	+ 7.90	3.90
Income Port	495.50	527.30	- 5.60	4.37
-do- Acc	520.80	554.10	- 5.80	4.37
Japan Growth	99.49	105.90	- 6.80	.
-do- Acc	99.84	106.20	- 6.80	
Master Trust	54.90	58.41	+ 0.16	1.50
-do- Acc	61.20	65.20	+ 0.17	1.50
N American Gth	168.20	179.00	+ 0.50	0.83
-do- Acc	194.30	206.80	+ 0.70	0.83
Nthn Sm Co Inc	131.40	139.80	+ 1.60	...
-do- Acc	134.10	142.70	+ 1.60	...
Pacific Basin	222.00	236.20	+ 5.70	0.07
-do- Acc	235.40	250.50	+ 6.00	0.07
Small Cos Inc	355.80	374.80	+12.10	2.03
-do- Acc	475.90	501.60	+16.30	2.03
UK Growth	79.35	84.42	- 0.08	2.75
-do- Acc	96.46	102.70	- 0.08	2.75
Worldwide Gth	288.60	307.10	- 4.30	0.52
-do- Acc	425.60	452.80	- 6.50	0.52
LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT				
0392 282 673				
American	60.17	64.53	+ 0.27	0.10
General	80.80	86.40	- 0.05	2.60
Income	63.09	67.62	- 0.53	5.59
International	58.65	62.35	- 0.86	0.60
Japan	56.67	60.15	- 3.40	...
Tst of Inv Trusts	63.82	68.26	- 0.70	1.40
M & G SECURITIES				
Cust Serv/Unit Dlg: 0245 390 390				
Amer & General	365.30	387.30	- 0.10	0.84
(Accum Units)	454.50	480.80	- 0.10	0.84
Amer Recovery	435.80	460.90	- 1.50	0.61
(Accum Units)	500.10	528.80	- 1.70	0.61
Amer Smlr Cos	126.50	133.80†	+ 1.00	...
(Accum Units)	129.20	136.70	+ 1.00	...
Australasian	155.50	164.40	+ 2.40	2.89
(Accum Units)	188.50	198.30	+ 2.90	2.89
Capital	770.80	825.70	- 6.80	2.74
(Accum Units)	887.00	938.10	- 6.80	2.74
Charifund	651.20	657.80	- 5.50	5.82
(Accum Units)	£30.08	£30.39	-25.20	5.82
Commodity	380.50	402.40	- 6.70	0.37
(Accum Units)	557.90	590.80	-12.70	0.37
Compound Gth	885.40	936.90	+ 5.30	3.03
(Accum Units)	928.10	981.40	+ 5.60	3.03
Dividend	37.28	39.30	- 0.30	4.60
(Accum Units)	158.00	165.10	- 1.20	4.60
Equity Income	329.40	348.30	- 0.40	5.05
(Accum Units)	419.20	443.30	- 0.40	5.05
Euro & General	477.70	505.20†	+ 3.10	1.12
(Accum Units)	604.20	639.00	+ 3.90	1.12
Euro Dividend	65.80	69.60†	- 0.20	3.61
(Accum Units)	79.20	83.70	+ 0.40	3.61
Extra Yield	390.40	412.80	- 3.60	4.91
(Accum Units)	£12.11	£12.81	-11.00	4.91
Far Eastern	315.60	333.70	- 6.10	1.02
(Accum Units)	418.10	442.10	-10.80	1.02
Fund of Inv Tsts	558.00	591.50	- 6.10	2.15
(Accum Units)	£10.62	£11.23	-11.50	2.15
General	57.10	60.40†	- 0.40	3.93
(Accum Units)	163.50	169.80	- 1.20	3.93
Gilt Income	53.93	56.45	+ 0.05	8.22
(Accum Units)	159.95	160.24	+ 0.16	8.22
Gold	61.80	65.40†	- 2.30	1.03
(Accum Units)	73.00	77.20	- 2.80	1.03
High Income	26.70	28.20†	- 0.20	4.95
(Accum Units)	107.90	113.30	- 0.80	4.95
Intl Growth	71.10	75.20	- 0.80	1.18
(Accum Units)	123.80	131.00	- 1.40	1.18
International Inc	92.50	97.80	- 0.10	4.73
(Accum Units)	137.30	145.10	- 0.38	4.73
Japan & Gen	46.29	49.50	- 2.70	...
(Accum Units)	49.60	52.50	- 2.80	..
Japan Smlr Cos	162.30	171.60	- 8.90	..
(Accum Units)	163.50	172.80	- 8.90	...
Managed Income	26.10	27.40†	- 0.10	4.12
Midland	59.00	62.40	- 0.10	3.20
(Accum Units)	197.10	208.70	- 0.10	3.20
Pension Ex	873.30	895.20	- 7.30	4.55
Recovery	43.60	46.80†	- 0.20	2.82
(Accum Units)	63.40	67.80	- 0.40	2.82
Second General	69.08	70.70†	- 0.50	3.57
(Accum Units)	173.70	183.80	- 1.30	3.57
Smaller Cos	66.70	70.50	...	3.18
(Accum Units)	131.80	139.60	- 0.10	3.18
Sterling H Int	23.55	23.84†	+ 0.01	8.86
Treasury	25.07	25.11†	+ 0.02	5.79
Trustee	39.20	41.50	- 0.50	4.65
(Accum Units)	157.80	167.20	- 1.30	4.65
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 0277 261 010 Enq: 0800 204 631				
European Growth	76.57	81.40	+ 0.66	0.95
Intl Bond	58.09	62.06	- 0.02	5.70
Intl Equity Growth	65.87	70.03	- 0.94	0.05
N Amer Growth	89.40	95.10	+ 0.40	1.02
Special Sits Growth	20.35	21.64	- 0.01	1.76
UK Growth	349.00	371.20	- 2.90	2.85
(Accum Units)	455.20	484.30	- 3.70	2.85
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD				
01539 825887				
Balanced Fd #	£12.28	£12.52	+ 3.10	3.39
Income #	928.70	943.50†	+ 2.50	4.80
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
031 222 4242				
Maldon General	136.90	140.60	.	4.34
MANULIFE MANAGEMENT LTD				
Dealings: 0438 747 414				
Growth Units	180.20	192.40	+ 1.10	2.49
Gilt & Fxd Int	165.80	174.80	+ 0.20	6.80
Intl Growth	199.30	212.20	+ 0.50	0.23
North American	178.80	188.70	+ 3.60	0.62
Far East	245.30	262.40	+ 2.60	1.25
UK Smaller Cos	166.20	177.90	...	1.71
European	78.43	83.49	+ 0.50	0.13
Japanese Growth	46.86	49.94	- 1.88	..
High Income	180.80	193.40	+ 0.70	4.33
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD				
0244 680 665				
M & S Inv Ptflo	142.20	149.70†	- 1.30	2.29
-do- Accum	163.50	172.10†	- 1.50	2.29
UK Sel Ptflo	122.50	128.90†	- 0.80	2.51
-do- Accum	142.30	149.80†	- 1.00	2.51
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD				
0204 364 842				
Managed Tst	63.02	67.04	+ 0.25	4.03
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
031 479 4646				
Intl Income	66.46	70.55†	- 1.10	4.60
European	76.86	81.50	+ 0.63	0.41
Income #	70.05	74.20	- 0.60	6.01
Nth American	57.97	61.54	- 0.11	0.09
Far East	153.50	163.00	- 4.80	...
Japan	54.22	57.56	- 2.89	...
Emrging Mkts	88.48	94.03	+ 0.48	..
Intl Growth	98.84	105.00	- 2.60	0.79
UK Growth	84.73	89.95	- 0.58	1.16
UK Smlr Co	43.62	46.21	- 1.06	1.02
Asian Opps Fd	33.40	35.72	- 1.03	0.15
MAYFLOWER MANAGEMENT CO LTD				
071 407 5966				
Income	393.13	418.22	- 1.47	4.27
Global Inc	65.10	69.26	+ 0.26	2.99
Brit Leaders	324.09	344.78	+ 1.64	2.59
Intl Leaders	189.72	201.83	+ 0.14	0.82
PAM Mg Bal Gth	68.34	82.69	+ 0.03	0.86
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 071 280 2860				
American	191.00	202.60	+ 1.80	..
(Accum Units)	204.20	216.60	+ 1.90	..
American Opps	86.71	91.42	+ 0.29	...
(Accum Units)	86.78	92.57	+ 0.27	...
British Blue Chip	74.26	78.84	- 0.65	3.06
(Accum Units)	91.56	97.20	- 0.80	3.06
Cash	101.10	101.10	+ 0.10	5.69
(Accum Units)	137.50	137.50	+ 0.10	5.69
Emerging Mkts	99.80	106.00	+ 0.30	0.13
(Accum Units)	99.69	106.10	+ 0.30	0.13
European Growth	238.20	249.50	+ 0.70	0.18
(Accum Units)	251.40	258.20	+ 0.80	0.18
European Income	78.17	82.08†	+ 0.57	3.46
(Accum Units)	105.10	110.90†	+ 0.70	3.46
General	470.00	500.50	- 1.60	2.46
(Accum Units)	916.20	975.70	- 3.00	2.46
Global Bond	118.80	124.60	...	5.58
(Accum Units)	142.20	149.50	+ 0.10	5.58
Gold & General	206.40	221.90	- 4.60	0.41
(Accum Units)	211.80	227.70	- 4.70	0.41
Govt Securities	87.21	89.91†	- 0.10	6.32
(Accum Units)	165.80	175.10†	- 0.10	6.32
Income	141.60	150.50	- 1.60	4.61
(Accum Units)	218.40	233.20	- 2.30	4.61
Inc Portfolio #	90.04	96.47†	- 0.56	5.38
(Accum Units) #	91.97	97.50†	- 0.56	5.38
Intl Opps	432.00	459.50†	- 1.10	0.35
(Accum Units)	576.90	613.80†	- 0.50	0.35
Japan	176.20	186.70†	- 6.40	...
(Accum Units)	180.80	191.70†	- 6.80	...
New Europe	169.80	180.10	- 1.30	0.78
(Accum Units)	172.60	184.10	- 1.40	0.78
Pacific	104.10	111.90	- 2.30	0.92
(Accum Units)	111.40	118.80	- 2.50	0.92
Recovery	281.00	299.70	+ 3.50	0.86
(Accum Units)	358.70	382.60	+ 3.90	0.86
UK Smaller Cos	53.81	57.40	- 0.35	0.50
(Accum Units)	60.83	64.88	- 0.30	0.50
Portfolio	75.69	79.65	- 0.70	2.80
(Accum Units)	88.95	93.51	- 0.83	2.80
Managed Gilt	92.80	97.25	- 0.82	1.95
Managed Inc	95.52	100.19	- 0.39	4.50
METROPOLITAN UT MGRS LTD				
0707 662 233				
Evergrowth Plus	108.23	115.14	+ 0.15	0.93
Portfolio	82.46	86.47	- 0.72	0.88
UK Income Inc	71.15	75.89	- 0.71	4.95
MIDLAND UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0845 456 123 Dlg: 0845 456 126				
Balanced	57.09	59.71	- 0.05	3.35
(Accum Units)	80.07	82.90	- 0.05	3.35
Bonus Tst	78.74	82.45	+ 0.60	2.03
(Accum Units)	91.62	94.78	+ 0.68	2.03
Extra High Inc	65.24	68.71†	+ 0.15	6.67
(Accum Units)	128.30	132.20†	+ 0.30	6.67
FT-SE 100 Acc	55.65	58.04†	+ 0.29	3.33
FT-SE 100 Dist	48.80	52.29†	+ 0.28	3.33
Gilt & Fxd Int	52.37	54.52	+ 0.04	7.30
(Accum Units)	154.50	157.70	+ 0.10	7.30
High Yield	212.60	222.50	+ 0.10	5.76
(Accum Units)	532.60	557.00	+ 0.30	5.76
Income	272.90	289.80	- 0.80	3.65

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
(Accum Units)	593.70	621.00	- 1.40	3.65
Money Market UT	49.77	49.77	+ 0.03	5.40
(Accum Units)	77.42	77.42	+ 0.05	5.40
Monthly Income	81.71	85.56†	- 0.21	6.18
Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust				
British	94.30	100.40	...	1.98
European Growth	102.10	108.20	+ 0.80	0.02
Gilt & Fixed	82.45	87.50	+ 0.09	8.34
Income	80.56	85.72	- 0.13	2.50
Japan Growth	52.40	55.55	- 2.00	...
Managed	65.44	69.82	- 0.05	2.52
Money Market	86.54	91.73	+ 0.07	4.38
North American	85.44	90.57	+ 1.12	0.58
Midland FSAVCS Unit Trust				
British	85.77	91.18	..	1.94
European Growth	96.00	101.80	+ 0.70	0.01
Gilt & Fixed Int	78.62	83.42	+ 0.06	8.30
Income	79.10	84.21	- 0.13	3.05
Japan Growth	52.30	55.44	- 1.92	...
Managed	62.60	66.60	+ 0.04	2.50
Money Market	80.01	84.82	+ 0.07	4.93
North American	77.90	82.57	+ 1.00	0.50
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust				
British	85.69	91.16	...	1.98
European Growth	93.72	99.34	+ 0.80	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	72.02	76.42	+ 0.05	6.45
Income	78.20	83.18	- 0.74	3.07
Japan Growth	53.51	56.72	- 2.03	...
Managed	65.36	69.53	- 0.05	2.49
Money Market	74.61	79.09	+ 0.05	4.40
North American	86.25	91.43	+ 1.12	0.46
MILLENNIUM FUND MGMT LTD				
071 407 5966				
International (US$)	12.07	12.84	+ 0.12	...
MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD				
Dealing: 071 826 0826 Enquiries: 071 826 0123				
American Gwth	324.70	344.50†	+ 2.50	...
European Gth Inc	433.10	464.40†	+ 8.50	0.29
(Accum Units)	437.80	469.40†	+ 8.60	0.29
Intl Gwth	187.20	199.40	- 1.70	...
UK Equity Inc	174.10	185.40	- 0.70	3.21
UK Intl Trckr Inc	149.80	159.30	- 1.50	2.80
(Accum Units)	175.90	188.70	- 1.70	2.80
US Eq Intl Trk Inc	188.40	199.70	+ 0.80	1.52
Japan Tracker	73.25	77.50	- 3.97	...
Asian Tracker	176.40	191.80	- 2.00	0.32
Managed Inc	146.50	156.00†	- 0.80	1.40
Deposit Inc	99.90	99.90†	+ 0.06	4.23
Europe	169.70	182.40	+ 0.30	0.28
Growth	150.10	164.70	+ 0.20	2.20
High Income	20.98	22.25†	- 0.10	10.00
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT				
0345 090 933				
American	86.94	90.87	- 0.77	2.49
Accum Inc	84.18	88.61	- 0.72	2.49
Accum Reserve	81.19	82.00†	+ 0.27	6.30
-do- Inc	69.71	70.41†	+ 0.23	6.30
American Growth #	148.00	152.60	+ 0.28	1.63
Cash Income	49.85	49.90	+ 0.03	5.19
Equity Income #	89.57	91.87†	- 0.70	4.83
European	65.71	68.13	- 0.84	0.02
Smaller Cos	75.41	79.93	- 0.18	0.50
Olympiad	60.23	61.67	- 0.57	0.32
Global Bond	41.79	42.27	+ 0.06	4.71
UK Growth	87.10	89.42	- 0.70	1.76
Pacific Growth	88.26	92.46	- 3.09	...
Japan Growth	50.65	52.15	- 4.80	...
NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 261 010				
Avon Equity	114.41	121.71†	- 0.75	2.86
N&P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
061 237 5322				
UK Growth	69.89	74.14	- 1.32	2.31
UK Income	100.20	106.60	- 1.00	4.16
Higher Income	201.50	214.40†	- 1.50	5.08
Smaller Cos	76.50	81.30	- 3.30	2.22
International	90.70	96.40	- 0.84	1.72
NPI INVESTMENT MGRS				
071 623 4200				
American Dist	97.12	103.87†	- 0.81	0.13
European Dist	103.60	110.80	+ 0.30	...
Far East Dist	164.30	175.70	- 5.10	...
Global Care Dist	65.00	69.52†	+ 0.12	1.17
Davos Dist	945.80	£10.11	-19.20	0.08
(Accum Units)	£12.27	£13.12	-24.90	0.08
UK Dist	322.00	344.40	- 1.50	2.33
(Accum Units)	631.60	675.50	- 2.90	2.33
UK Extra Inc Dist	73.47	78.58	- 0.18	4.43
Wrlde Dist	98.45	105.29	- 2.61	0.35
Wrlde Inc Dist	65.09	70.68	- 0.59	2.82
NATIONAL WESTMINSTER UT MGRS				
Dlg: 0277 690 380 Admin Enq: 0277 690 388				
Europe Inc	61.11	64.50	+ 0.72	0.59
Fund of Funds Inc	55.11	58.18†	- 0.32	0.86
North America Inc	47.14	49.75	+ 0.15	0.52
UK Equity Gth Inc	55.46	58.53	- 0.21	2.14
(Accum Units)	57.56	60.75	- 0.21	2.14
UK General Inc	54.30	57.31	- 0.25	2.62
UK Gilt/Fix Int Inc	45.18	47.36†	+ 0.03	7.36
UK Income Inc	54.58	57.56	- 0.13	3.13
NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD				
Price enquiry freephone 0500 33 00 00				
Income	217.63	230.85†	- 1.06	3.51
Global	305.79	325.31	- 4.54	0.13
General	174.73	185.88†	- 1.54	1.83
Bond	110.54	117.27†	+ 0.08	6.24
Growth	117.29	124.78	- 0.87	2.43
Intrepid	112.62	117.32	...	1.80
Bridge Fund	83.26	88.58	- 1.44	2.23
Dividend	87.80	92.56†	- 0.48	3.19
Formerly Capital House				
American Gwth Tst	33.95	36.30	- 0.11	..
Cash Income	50.30	50.30	+ 0.05	5.51
European Gwth	37.49	39.95	+ 0.10	0.18
Income & Gwth Inc	25.48	27.25	- 0.18	4.94
Intnl Gwth	27.75	29.67	- 0.30	0.55
Japan Gwth	25.94	27.63	- 1.80	..
Managed Tst Inc	44.61	47.71	- 0.38	2.62
Oriental Opps Inc	123.30	131.80	+ 2.80	..
Property Shares	33.10	35.40†	- 1.73	0.86
Smaller Cos	28.90	30.90	- 0.27	1.79
UK Growth Tst	24.27	25.85	- 0.10	3.07
Royal Scottish Assurance				
Cap Hse Global Inc	67.82	72.32	- 0.56	1.79
Cap Hse UK Inc	63.21	67.89	+ 0.61	2.85
Exempt (E)	29.84	31.70	...	1.79
Foundation	87.47	93.55	- 0.45	3.46
German	48.76	51.91	+ 0.19	..
High Income	69.82	74.45†	- 0.80	5.57
Mngd Ptflo Inc	181.70	189.70	...	1.07
Mngd Ptflo Acc	194.40	207.80	...	1.07
Monthly Income	76.43	81.74	+ 0.29	4.74
NORWICH UNION TST MANAGERS				
0603 682 284				
Master Trust	115.71	123.07	- 0.78	1.98
UK Equity	129.50	137.77	- 0.40	3.19
UK Equity Income	117.70	130.53	- 0.40	3.44
UK Smaller Cos	111.50	118.62†	- 0.65	1.80
UK Equity Growth	121.40	129.15	+ 0.83	2.34
UK Index Trckg	132.91	140.76	- 0.83	3.08
Intl Index Trckg	135.51	144.16	- 2.80	1.16
International	218.07	231.99	- 2.73	0.39
European	187.31	199.27	+ 1.51	0.19
Far Eastern	124.24	132.17	+ 0.33	1.31
Nth American	160.12	170.40	+ 1.37	0.25
N Amer Smlr Cos	178.51	187.78†	- 0.04	.
Japanese	92.44	98.34†	- 5.84	...
Pacific	210.35	223.78†	- 5.88	0.16
South East Asian	222.42	236.62	- 1.94	0.54
Intl Bond	124.12	131.95†	- 2.85	5.54
Gilt & Convertible	98.96	105.25†	+ 0.63	6.13
Property	82.01	87.24†	- 0.01	5.38
OLD MUTUAL FUND MGRS LTD				
0256 768 888				
European Inc	258.50	270.10	+ 2.70	..
(Accum Units)	265.10	285.90	+ 2.90	...
Japan Inc	106.40	113.60	- 5.00	...
Nth American Inc	103.30	111.00	+ 0.10	...
Worldwide Inc	153.90	165.50	- 1.80	0.19
Hong Kong Inc	111.30	119.50	- 0.90	1.61
Swiss Equities Inc	84.70	89.15	- 0.32	...
Wrlde Bond Inc	59.33	62.80	- 0.01	5.11
Emrgng Asia Inc	198.20	214.40†	- 5.20	...
(Accum Units)	199.60	215.30	- 5.10	...
UK Money Mkt Inc	50.41	50.41	+ 0.04	5.25
Thailand Inc	155.40	167.10	+ 9.40	1.16
Gold Trust Inc	71.19	77.40	- 1.61	0.20
New Zealand Inc	85.09	91.75	+ 0.94	1.74
Intl Mngd PEP Inc	61.17	65.81	- 0.04	0.65
Latin Am Cap Inc	63.49	68.76†	+ 0.06	0.22
UK All Sh Idx Inc	55.83	58.85	- 0.22	2.54
Broker Unit Trusts				
Global Trustees	75.34	80.58	- 0.60	..
Global Portfolio	67.43	72.12	- 0.70	...
Global Opps	66.95	71.60	- 1.11	...
Marsh Global Gth	61.24	64.94	- 1.69	...
AAM Global Equity	51.39	54.47	- 0.02	...
CAM Bkr Gwth Inc	83.98	90.36	+ 0.04	...
Temple Equity Inc	41.72	45.55†	- 0.46	3.48
Hartley Growth	71.50	76.59	- 0.96	0.20
IIS Growth Inc	82.88	88.54	- 0.60	0.62
IPS Portfolio Inc	80.75	86.38†	- 1.08	...
St Jms Mks Inc Inc	48.05	47.90†	- 0.05	...
Premier Portfos Inc	65.49	70.04†	+ 0.04	1.21
Starburgh Stml Gth	69.45	74.29	- 0.02	..
Tech Analysis	93.58	98.19	- 1.21	...
Rosebery Growth	47.26	51.28	- 1.29	..
International Strat	74.21	79.37	- 0.04	0.96
UFC Int-Act Gth	51.90	55.16	- 0.41	.
Coverdale Topps	48.05	51.91	- 0.05	...
Prest Equity Inc	108.70	114.40	...	...
Lowes Intl Growth	42.75	45.66	- 1.00	0.96
PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Dlg: 0800 026 577 Enq: 0733 470 470				
Equity	225.60	240.70†	- 2.80	2.67
(Accum Units)	476.60	508.90	- 3.80	2.67
Growth	147.30	155.90	- 1.60	2.79
Income	225.00	238.30	- 2.60	3.66
Intl Equity	235.10	250.00	- 2.30	1.09
(Accum Units)	259.80	276.40	- 2.50	1.09
UK Income	62.08	65.95†	- 0.72	3.36
UK Intl 25	74.85	79.62	- 0.88	2.22
New Europe	75.36	80.19	+ 0.96	0.36
PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT				
0491 417 000				
Intl Growth Inc	551.98	590.38	-12.55	0.28
(Accum Units)	552.55	590.97	-12.56	0.28
Income	325.52	348.15	- 5.35	3.36
Wrlde Recovery	352.04	376.52	- 7.18	0.14
Asian Growth Inc	207.15	221.56	- 2.47	0.01
(Accum Units)	207.15	221.56	- 2.47	0.01
Intl Emerging Cos	228.73	242.50	- 2.46	0.03
Far Esn Gwth Inc	257.74	275.65†	- 9.45	0.12
(Accum Units)	257.74	275.65	- 9.45	0.12
Euro Gwth Inc	133.22	142.49†	- 0.18	0.71
(Accum Units)	133.55	142.84	- 0.27	0.71
UK Growth Inc	83.84	89.67	- 1.03	2.80
(Accum Units)	85.87	91.85	- 1.05	2.80
High Income	89.10	95.30†	- 0.88	4.14
Jap Gwth Inc	213.87	227.73	-13.50	0.01
(Accum Units)	213.87	227.73	-13.50	0.01
PEP Growth	109.63	117.25	- 2.26	4.09
Astro Str Mks Inc	109.34	116.95†	- 4.37	0.01
(Accum Units)	109.34	116.95	- 4.37	0.01
Amer Smlr Co Inc	120.15	128.54	- 1.70	0.01
(Accum Units)	120.15	128.51	- 1.39	0.01
Global Bond	52.49	55.20	- 0.23	5.98
UK Smaller Cos Inc	78.31	82.79	+ 0.69	1.43
(Accum Units)	81.36	87.02	+ 0.69	1.43
PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
081 201 3927				
American	95.05	102.18	+ 2.14	...
European	66.78	72.17	+ 0.29	...
Global	60.88	64.77	- 0.11	...
Pacific	57.24	60.89	- 1.94	...
UK Inc & Gth	62.32	66.30	- 0.11	1.92
PONTON YORK UT MGRS				
0533 550 540				
BB Director Dlgs	92.49	98.40	- 1.06	0.35
PORTFOLIO FUND MGMT LTD				
071 407 5966				
Portfolio	151.80	159.78†	- 1.80	0.86
Emerg Mkts	44.32	46.86	- 1.08	...
PREMIUM LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0444 458 721				
Monthly Income	57.74	61.20	+ 0.09	2.49
Growth Income	60.46	64.08	- 0.12	2.24
PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0732 740 700				
Principal Tst	124.43	132.98	- 1.32	1.73
PROLIFIC UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 071 280 3700 Dealing: 0800 282 443				
American Income	86.84	92.17†	- 0.37	3.74
Conv & Gilt	110.90	118.00	+ 0.50	6.20
European Income	69.72	74.12	+ 0.37	3.04
Extra Income	142.50	151.60†	- 0.40	3.89
(Accum Units)	172.90	183.90	- 0.50	3.89
Far East	370.30	394.00	- 9.80	0.08
(Accum Units)	377.30	401.40	- 9.80	0.08
Global Income	23.91	25.43†	- 0.47	4.63

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
High Income	108.60	115.50	- 0.40	5.60
(Accum Units)	128.90	137.10	- 0.50	5.60
International	189.50	201.60	- 4.70	0.66
(Accum Units)	195.20	207.70	- 4.80	0.66
Pref & Fxd Int	42.62	45.34†	- 0.49	7.59
Recovery	67.61	71.93	- 0.11	2.84
Special Sits	102.40	109.60†	- 0.30	1.15
(Accum Units)	110.90	118.00	- 0.20	1.15
Technology	353.50	376.10	+ 0.70	.
UK Blue Chip	65.22	69.38	- 0.13	2.69
(Accum Units)	72.34	76.95	- 0.15	2.69
PROSPERITY UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0822 674 751				
General	50.09	53.29†	+ 0.36	2.24
International	84.87	90.29	- 1.77	0.40
Gilt	23.53	24.26	+ 0.01	6.75
Income & Gwth	66.25	70.48	- 0.53	4.57
European	49.73	52.90	+ 0.37	0.44
American	50.07	53.27	+ 0.09	..
Emerging Mkts	64.70	73.08	+ 2.78	0.05
UK Smaller Cos	28.18	29.98	- 0.16	1.73
Gilt/Fixed Interest	24.35	25.90†	- 0.03	7.21
Global PEP	35.86	38.15	- 0.37	1.35
For Providence Capital see Old Mutual				
PROVIDENT MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD				
071 588 3663				
Equity Gth	163.80	174.30	+ 0.80	1.80
European Gth	94.85	100.60	+ 1.20	0.39
Income & Gth #	125.50	133.50	+ 0.40	3.33
Japan Gth	218.80	233.80	- 8.40	...
Nth Amer Gth	112.70	119.90	+ 1.00	0.18
Overseas Gth	84.31	89.69	- 0.86	...
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
081 478 3377 Client Enq: 071 911 4490				
Managed Tst	34.08	35.97	- 0.22	1.61
Cash Haven Inc	101.50	102.00	+ 0.08	4.94
Cash Haven Acc	111.12	111.60	+ 0.08	4.94
Dist Trust Inc	91.90	95.25†	- 0.06	6.29
Dist Trust Acc	95.04	98.49†	- 0.09	6.29
Global Growth	84.04	89.49	- 0.61	1.38
Equity Inc	77.80	82.84	- 0.53	3.83
Equity	686.23	730.00	+ 4.01	2.27
European	281.80	299.11	+ 0.78	1.14
High Income	85.86	91.33†	+ 0.16	4.99
Intl Gth	169.53	180.35†	- 1.47	0.98
Intl Sm Co	73.08	77.75	- 0.92	0.45
Japanese	211.59	219.26	- 9.96	...
Nth Amer	156.52	162.79	+ 0.12	1.90
Pacific Mkts	88.84	94.13	- 1.37	0.39
Premier Inc	45.83	47.70†	- 0.01	4.90
Sm Cos	83.33	88.64	- 0.61	1.54
Spec Sits	101.60	108.98†	- 1.76	2.17
UK Growth	114.20	121.40	- 0.58	2.33
RELIANCE UNIT MGRS. LTD				
0892 510 033				
British Life	283.20	300.30	- 3.20	3.30
ROCK ASSET MGMT (UNIT TRUST) LTD				
091 285 2355				
Managed	92.01	97.82†	+ 0.12	2.28
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT				
Dealing: 071 280 5000				
FA America (Inc)	498.91	530.80	+ 4.10	0.34
FA America (Acc)	583.20	620.56	+ 4.86	0.34
FA UK Equity Inc	147.66	157.28	- 1.87	3.68
FA Japan	247.78	263.76	-15.17	...
FA Major UK Cos	89.13	94.99†	- 1.06	2.41
FA Smlr UK Cos	278.82	302.80	- 2.88	1.35
FA European	302.72	321.45	+ 0.46	0.53
FA Amer Smllr Cos	42.48	45.44	+ 0.15	...
FA Asia	42.87	45.94	- 0.49	..
FA Jap Smllr Cos	49.62	52.52	- 3.37	...
RAM Personal Pension				
UK Major Cos	90.40	95.21	- 1.06	..
UK Smllr Cos	88.64	94.25	- 0.87	..
UK Income	89.43	94.13	- 1.11	...
America	100.17	105.43	+ 0.82	..
Japanese	54.51	57.37	- 3.30	..
European	96.88	101.97	+ 0.15	..
Gilt	84.44	88.87	- 0.57	..
Deposit	83.15	87.52	+ 0.03	..
Managed	92.92	97.80	- 1.20	..
RAM FSAVC Scheme				
UK Major Cos	88.08	92.71	- 1.09	...
UK Smaller Cos	78.20	82.31	- 0.80	...
UK Income	87.27	91.86	- 1.08	...
America	97.51	102.63	+ 0.88	...
Japanese	53.07	55.86	- 3.22	...
European	94.38	99.32	+ 0.15	...
Gilt	84.12	88.54	- 0.62	...
Deposit	79.21	83.38	+ 0.10	...
Managed	87.33	91.92	- 1.13	...
ROYAL LIFE FD MGMT LTD				
Prices: 0733 282 828 Gen Enq: 0733 390 000				
United States	74.47	79.58	+ 0.26	0.23
Pacific Basin	73.08	78.62	- 2.40	...
High Inc Dist	126.20	134.90	- 0.60	5.27
Ryl Life Intl Clsry	59.77	63.36	- 0.08	4.35
Ryl Life Intl Gwth	63.73	68.02	- 0.98	0.029
Ryl Life Intl Spec	80.25	84.09	- 0.56	...
UK Emerging Cos	122.10	131.90	- 0.88	1.17
UK Index Trckg	155.70	165.00	+ 0.10	3.48
European	123.80	132.80	+ 1.40	0.29
Managed	139.00	143.40†	- 1.10	0.85
ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0206 764 400				
American Growth	139.50	147.60†	+ 2.10	0.54
European Growth	106.40	112.40	+ 0.60	0.97
Far East Growth	119.70	127.40†	- 1.80	0.51
Japan Growth	131.20	139.50	- 4.70	...
Special Sits	181.50	193.00	+ 0.10	1.68
UK Growth	72.12	76.72†	- 0.40	2.67
Tokyo General	225.80	240.30	- 0.60	0.81
ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD				
041 307 6500				
Far East Inc	149.00	157.70	- 4.10	0.42
Gt Euro Prog Inc	328.00	348.80	+ 1.40	[illegible]
(Accum Units)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Growth Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
(Accum Units)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
International Inc	328.00	345.80	+ 2.50	0.46
(Accum Units)	447.10	473.10	+ 2.00	0.46
Nth Am & Intl Inc	298.40	315.80	- 1.40	1.25
UK Gen Prog Inc	214.00	226.50	- 0.10	1.38
UK High Inc Inc	124.20	131.40	- 0.80	3.80
SANWA INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD				
071 330 8572				
American Gwth	61.27	65.17	+ 0.51	5.50
Amer Smlr Cos	73.50	78.27	+ 0.59	..
Asian Gwth	98.14	104.40	+ 0.14	0.75
European Gwth	63.61	67.68†	+ 0.05	1.00
Global Bd	57.46	60.79	+ 0.07	5.00
Global Eq	58.80	62.60†	- 0.63	0.50
Japanese Eq	51.98	55.27	- 3.28	...
Japan Sm Cos	61.18	65.08	- 3.96	...
UK Gen	50.59	53.80	- 0.38	2.80
UK Gwth	56.75	60.36†	- 0.93	1.75
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP				
0708 766 966				
Amer Inc & Gwth #	64.30	68.40	- 0.07	4.36
Amer Smlr Cos	105.60	112.30	+ 0.58	...
Asian Smaller Cos	41.94	44.62	- 0.71	...
Capital Portfolio	121.40	129.10	- 1.10	1.99
Capital	154.50	164.40	- 0.80	1.25
Cash	125.80	125.80†	+ 0.10	5.33
China Dragon	49.58	52.75	- 0.60	0.93
Commodity	125.10	133.10	- 3.40	0.37
Eastern Discovery	91.57	97.41	- 3.29	...
Emerging Mkts	36.80	38.84	- 0.38	...
Energy Inds	113.70	121.80	+ 0.10	0.81
European Gwth	182.50	194.20	+ 1.10	..
Euro Inc & Gwth #	74.74	79.51†	+ 0.10	1.37
Euro Smlr Cos	50.54	53.77	+ 0.02	...
Extra Income #	49.78	51.37	- 0.64	6.90
Financial Secs	188.60	200.80	+ 0.30	1.74
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc #	47.55	50.16	+ 0.10	9.03
Gold & Exploration	77.83	82.80†	- 2.70	..
High Return #	213.60	227.28†	- 1.20	4.40
High Yield #	216.50	230.30	- 0.90	4.05
Income #	114.90	122.20	- 0.50	4.49
Intl Bond	157.80	165.70	+ 0.20	6.60
ITU	194.80	207.20	- 1.80	1.59
Japan Growth	171.30	182.20	- 7.20	...
Japan Smaller	182.90	194.60	-11.30	...
Korea	63.43	67.48	- 1.57	...
Netherlands	32.85	35.01†	- 0.56	0.81
Scotbits	283.10	301.20†	+ 0.20	1.51
Scotshares #	272.50	288.80	- 6.60	2.82
Scotyields #	227.40	241.80	- 1.50	3.89
Select Intl	133.20	141.70	- 2.20	0.36
Smaller Cos Inc #	237.60	252.80	+ 0.30	3.61
SE Asia	48.43	51.52	- 0.86	...
Special Situation	118.00	125.50	- 0.20	1.28
UK Equity #	229.60	244.20†	- 5.60	2.77
UK Growth	80.78	84.88	- 0.23	1.54
UK Smlr Cos Gwth	45.42	48.32	- 0.19	0.84
US Growth	139.30	148.20	+ 0.30	0.49
Univ Growth	133.80	141.80	- 2.80	0.73
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Clnt: 0800 526 535 Brkr: 0800 526 545				
Retail Funds				
American	238.91	254.02	- 1.81	1.09
(Accum Units)	260.85	277.45	- 1.98	1.09
European Gwth	71.09	75.47	- 0.64	1.31
Euro Smlr Cos	74.56	79.44†	+ 0.29	0.14
Far Eastern Gth	87.66	93.52†	- 2.39	..
(Accum Units)	89.26	95.21	- 2.43	..
Gilt & Fixed Int	49.73	52.43	- 0.02	6.97
Global Bond	46.65	48.82†	- 0.30	6.59
(Accum Units)	51.59	53.92	- 0.33	6.59
Global Emer Mkts	48.22	51.43	- 0.84	...
(Accum Units)	48.22	51.43	- 0.84	...
Income	330.12	352.12	- 1.72	4.21
(Accum Units)	810.26	889.97	- 5.34	4.21
Japan Smlr Cos	469.90	512.95†	-21.80	...
(Accum Units)	481.85	513.98	-21.73	...
Japan Enterprise	69.36	70.70	- 4.86	...
Pacific Gwth	113.02	120.55	- 2.83	...
(Accum Units)	116.67	124.44	- 2.92	...
Portfolio	75.80	80.85	- 0.70	2.11
(Accum Units)	81.67	87.11	- 0.76	2.11
Seoul	48.19	52.15	- 1.18	...
(Accum Units)	48.19	52.15	- 1.19	...
Smaller Cos	205.36	219.04†	- 0.29	1.11
Tokyo	119.58	127.97	- 6.89	...
(Accum Units)	121.19	129.26	- 6.97	...
UK Enterprise	233.32	248.87†	+ 1.62	2.10
(Accum Units)	279.93	298.59	+ 1.94	2.10
UK Equity	222.95	237.81†	- 2.24	2.88
(Accum Units)	433.22	462.10	- 4.35	2.88
US Smlr Cos	152.84	162.81	- 0.13	...
(Accum Units)	44.87	46.60	+ 0.24	0.48
Institutional Funds				
European	226.44	235.76†	+ 2.33	1.36
(Accum Units)	251.52	261.98	+ 3.12	1.36
Euro Smlr Cos	27.64	28.79	+ 0.01	1.87
(Accum Units)	29.33	30.55	+ 0.01	1.87
Global Equity Inc	73.95	78.40	- 0.58	0.87
Japan Smlr Cos	38.48	40.09†	- 1.85	..
(Accum Units)	38.79	40.40	- 1.86	..
Mngd Balanced	175.18	182.47	- 0.98	3.05
(Accum Units)	197.03	205.86	- 1.09	3.05
Overseas Equity	177.19	184.57†	- 1.86	0.91
(Accum Units)	183.46	193.10	- 1.75	0.91
Ovsts Smlr Cos	113.30	118.27	- 1.32	0.75
(Accum Units)	124.42	129.60	- 1.39	0.75
Pacific	218.11	225.11	- 2.24	1.31
(Accum Units)	235.82	245.64	- 2.44	1.31
Recovery	£17.19	£17.91†	-20.61	3.03
(Accum Units)	£18.18	£18.93	- 1.80	3.03
UK Index	144.65	151.60	- 1.58	3.46
(Accum Units)	176.85	184.26	- 1.83	3.46
UK Small Cos	109.59	114.15	- 0.26	2.72
(Accum Units)	116.14	120.96	- 0.27	2.72
US Smlr Cos	44.04	45.87	+ 0.25	0.48
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UT MGRS LTD				
041-248 2200				
Equity Income	48.20	51.33	+ 0.03	3.62
Equity Trust	58.09	61.86	- 0.12	3.11
Equity Strategy	67.16	71.51	+ 0.24	1.73
European Opps	83.26	88.67	+ 1.15	0.67
UK Smaller Cos	61.15	65.12	+ 0.08	1.29
Mnthly Inc	99.62	102.19	+ 0.05	6.39
Japanese	74.92	78.89	- 4.79	...
Asia Pacific	108.88	115.96	- 0.76	1.52
American	95.44	101.64	- 0.91	0.70
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE FD MGRS LTD				
0800 454 422				
Cash	30.65	30.65	+ 0.02	5.33
UK General Inc	48.42	51.65	- 0.57	2.84
(Accum Units)	62.16	66.32	- 0.73	2.84
Intl Income	256.90	273.10†	- 4.80	1.81
(Accum Units)	441.80	469.80†	- 0.90	1.81
European	76.36	80.87†	+ 0.46	1.47
Japan	67.85	71.64†	- 3.03	0.05
American	89.01	95.73†	- 0.02	1.92
Far East	78.32	83.43	- 1.32	0.76

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Ethical Inc	28.25	30.21	- 0.08	2.15
UK Blue Chip Inc	31.25	33.41†	- 0.23	2.98
High Inc Inc	33.04	35.09†	- 0.40	3.44
UK Global Inc	37.83	40.41	- 0.41	1.57
Wrlde Tech	68.01	72.52†	- 1.32	1.25
Europe 2000 Tact	50.80	53.94	+ 0.17	1.52
Technology	182.58	189.26†	- 1.79	1.37
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS				
031 225 2211				
UK Equity	361.50	385.00	- 2.10	2.30
American	240.90	255.80	+ 0.10	0.85
Pacific	349.70	374.00	-11.70	0.38
European	521.80	558.10	+ 0.30	1.31
Worldwide	81.03	86.65	- 1.20	0.92
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INV MGRS LTD				
041 248 6100				
UK Equity Inc	254.60	270.90†	- 0.90	2.24
(Accum Units)	321.20	341.80†	- 1.20	2.24
UK Sr Co Eq Inc	188.50	200.60†	- 0.50	2.32
(Accum Units)	225.90	240.40†	- 0.60	2.32
Select Opport Inc	63.20	67.60	+ 0.27	1.96
Income Plus Inc	67.08	71.31	- 0.48	4.26
European Inc	330.00	351.10	+ 3.10	0.58
(Accum Units)	372.80	396.80	+ 3.40	0.58
Far Eastern Inc	157.20	167.30	- 7.00	0.73
(Accum Units)	178.90	190.40	- 1.10	0.73
Japanese Inc	59.37	63.17	- 3.58	..
Nth American Inc	227.90	242.50	- 1.20	0.61
(Accum Units)	250.90	267.00	- 1.30	0.61
Intl Growth Inc	189.10	201.20†	- 2.80	0.67
Wrlde Venture Inc	75.20	80.21	- 1.20	0.77
SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND MGMT				
031 668 3724				
Equity Inc	344.90	367.80	- 1.30	2.80
(Accum Units)	505.80	539.40	- 1.90	2.80
UK High Inc	174.30	185.80	- 0.70	3.90
(Accum Units)	251.50	268.20	- 1.10	3.90
Europe Inc	353.40	376.90	+ 5.00	0.28
Nth Amer Inc	204.00	217.50	- 0.90	0.14
Global Inc	193.30	206.10	- 2.10	0.23
UK Spec Sits Inc	92.24	98.38	- 0.01	3.11
South East Asia	202.70	216.20	- 1.70	0.95
Cash Trust Inc	100.50	108.50	+ 0.10	5.29
UK Smlr Cos Inc	98.30	104.80	- 0.20	2.65
(Accum Units)	98.85	105.50	- 0.20	2.65
Intl Bond Inc	86.65	92.60	+ 0.43	6.28
SEMPER EADEN FUND MGMT LTD				
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 261 010				
Sector Recovery	144.00	151.30	- 0.30	4.41
SHARP (ALBERT E) & CO				
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 261 010				
European	119.70	126.80†	+ 0.30	0.90
Nth American	98.23	103.40†	+ 0.30	0.00
Intl Bond & Conv	118.30	124.50	- 0.50	4.86
Pooled Pension (E)	176.80	190.10	- 0.50	2.27
Smaller Cos	70.50	74.27	+ 2.27	1.43
UK General	121.50	127.50	- 0.90	2.14
SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD				
071 626 8226				
Amer Gth Fund‡	97.85	...	+ 0.52	..
Aztec‡	76.39	...	- 4.07	...
European‡	119.10	...	+ 0.89	...
Global Bond‡	93.17	...	+ 0.11	7.71
Samurai‡	78.71	..	- 6.29	...
UK Growth‡	98.85	...	- 0.02	2.76
Tel Pent	95.20	...	- 1.43	...
UK Emerg Leaders‡	97.87	..	- 0.17	1.45
SMITH & WILLIAMSON UT MGRS				
071 637 5377				
American	294.20	311.30†	+ 3.40	0.12
Canadian	62.83	66.40	- 1.33	0.94
Capital	117.40	125.80	- 0.60	1.83
Cash	101.27	101.27	+ 0.06	5.82
European	129.70	137.20	+ 1.60	0.72
Far Eastern	147.90	158.50	- 6.50	..
Growth	127.40	134.80†	- 1.00	1.33
Income	124.50	131.80	- 0.90	5.92
Magnate	128.00	134.90	- 0.60	1.59
Smllr Secs	365.50	386.80	- 0.30	1.66
Thoroughbred	148.80	157.80†	- 0.80	1.45
SOVEREIGN UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0202 298 422				
Cash	49.97	50.47†	+ 0.04	5.09
Capital Preference	54.04	57.84	- 0.06	8.10
Ethical	52.39	55.73	- 0.10	3.70
European Growth	70.61	75.32	- 0.25	2.88
Income	51.89	55.35†	- 0.26	6.09
Intl Growth	95.08	101.40	- 0.30	2.90
Managed	78.80	84.05	- 0.12	3.80
UK Growth	58.35	62.24	- 0.22	3.50
STANDARD LIFE UNIT TRUSTS				
0800 393 777				
Standard Life Fund Mngrs Ltd				
Global Advtg Inc	37.25	39.49	- 0.14	1.80
Global Advtg Acc	39.71	42.10	- 0.15	1.80
Income Advtg Inc	30.41	32.24†	+ 0.03	4.04
Income Advtg Acc	33.38	35.39	+ 0.03	4.04
UK Equity Gth Acc	62.16	65.89	- 0.25	1.38
Standard Life Tst Mngmt Ltd				
Managed Acc	48.29	51.24	- 0.14	1.54
UK Eq Hi Inc Inc	34.59	36.70	- 0.10	4.01
UK Eq Hi Inc Acc	42.85	45.53	- 0.13	4.01
UK Equity Gen Acc	50.16	52.86	- 0.20	2.36
UK Equity Gen Inc	43.76	46.50	- 0.15	2.36
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	29.73	31.45	- 0.10	8.35
Overs Lrg Cr Acc	298.30	322.70	- 2.10	1.59
Nth American Acc	42.65	45.32	+ 0.56	0.69
Far East Acc	64.19	68.20	- 1.30	0.14
European Acc	50.56	53.72	+ 0.47	0.85
STATE STREET UT MGMT LTD				
071 344 7000				
Global A (US$)	3.647	3.896	+ 0.04	0.55
US Eqs (US$)	2.355	2.600	+ 0.03	0.60
Far East Eqs (yen)	231.80	245.30	- 4.30	...
Japan Eqts (yen)	247.50	262.90	- 7.90	...
FT Europe	121.40	128.90	+ 0.30	1.54
FT N Amer (US$)	1.765	1.885	+ 0.03	0.85
FT Japan (yen)	223.30	237.20	-12.40	.
FT Asia Exjap (US$)	2.254	2.394	- 0.01	1.01
STEWART IVORY UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
031 226 3271				
American	351.80	374.10	+ 3.80	...
British #	667.50	718.23	- 1.60	4.21
Emrging Mkts	137.90	146.90	- 2.70	...
European	506.20	540.60	- 2.20	0.72
Japan	145.70	154.70	- 7.90	...
New Pacific	354.80	379.90	- 3.50	0.80
(Accum Units)	374.00	400.40	- 3.70	0.80
Inv Trust Acc	243.80	258.20	- 2.40	1.93
Mngd Equity	165.10	174.70	- 0.10	1.44
Mngd Cash	95.55	95.55	+ 0.07	5.19
SUN ALLIANCE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 690 390				
Equity	775.10	826.00†	- 8.50	3.43
North America	117.70	125.90	+ 0.20	0.99
Far East	132.10	141.30†	- 2.40	0.80
Wrlde Bond	54.56	57.92	+ 0.08	5.39
European	99.02	105.90	+ 0.20	0.20
Equity Income	85.38	91.32†	+ 0.61	4.55
Portfolio	89.00	95.50	- 0.19	1.29
UK Leading Cos	56.56	60.50	- 0.19	3.52
Broker Trusts				
Intl Equity	64.52	69.00	+ 0.18	...
SUN LIFE OF CANADA UT MGRS LTD				
0800 825 725				
American Growth	32.17	34.41	- 0.19	0.64
Managed Assets	120.06	128.41†	- 1.36	2.74
UK Income	38.38	41.05	- 0.50	3.28
UK Growth	35.91	38.45	- 0.41	2.52
Worldwide Growth	33.21	35.52	- 0.50	0.73
SUN LIFE TRUST MGMT LTD				
Admin & Enq: 071 606 4044 Dlg: 071 606 6010				
Discretionary	47.41	50.44	+ 0.15	...
Cap Protector Inc	40.71	43.54	- 0.19	2.71
UK Income Inc	48.10	51.44†	- 0.40	3.21
Mngd Euro Inc Inc	31.54	[illegible]	- 0.12	3.70
Mngd High Yld Inc	75.98	81.26	- 0.58	4.25
Mngd Inc/Gth Inc	70.98	75.91	- 0.68	3.40
UK Smaller Cos	32.69	34.96	+ 0.03	1.81
Pacific Gth Port	41.83	44.74	+ 0.25	0.39
TSB UNIT TRUSTS				
0264 346 794				
American	195.93	207.34	- 0.12	..
(Accum Units)	215.81	228.37	- 0.14	..
Brit Growth	90.40	95.67	- 0.41	2.25
(Accum Units)	108.79	115.12	- 0.50	2.25
European	100.53	106.39	- 0.79	0.62
(Accum Units)	106.91	113.13	- 0.84	0.62
Extra Income	184.99	195.74	- 0.80	4.41
(Accum Units)	313.88	332.15	- 1.52	4.41
Smaller Cos	68.55	72.56	+ 0.10	1.65
(Accum Units)	76.90	81.38	+ 0.12	1.65
General	262.45	277.72†	- 0.53	2.49
(Accum Units)	543.30	574.92	- 1.13	2.49
Premier Income	47.87	49.88	+ 0.02	8.40
(Accum Units)	107.85	112.85	+ 0.06	8.40
Income	316.21	334.61†	- 1.49	4.08
(Accum Units)	693.52	733.88†	- 3.13	4.08
Pacific	384.50	408.87	-17.03	..
(Accum Units)	404.10	427.62	-18.73	...
International	501.27	530.44	-10.15	0.17
(Accum Units)	658.14	697.58	-13.34	0.17
Nat Resources	152.87	161.77	- 2.74	..
Sectoral Opps	99.22	105.00	+ 0.09	1.45
(Accum Units)	126.32	133.67	+ 0.12	1.45
Environmental Inv	60.27	63.78	- 0.06	2.05
Selector	59.03	62.47	- 0.21	2.35
(Accum Units)	68.50	70.46	- 0.24	2.35
High Income	61.09	64.65†	- 0.26	4.87
(Accum Units)	77.83	82.36†	- 0.33	4.87
Intl Income	55.90	59.15	- 0.02	5.13
(Accum Units)	68.72	72.72	- 0.02	5.13
Selector Income	58.20	61.58	- 0.15	4.97
(Accum Units)	68.35	72.32	- 0.18	4.97
TO FUND MANAGERS LIMITED				
081 667 1618				
British	318.20	339.50	- 0.80	2.85
TEMPLETON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
031 469 4000				
Glob Growth Inc	196.44	210.18†	+ 1.98	1.39
Glob Balncd Inc	167.10	178.72	+ 1.18	2.87
Value Tst Inc	115.41	123.43†	+ 0.79	1.59
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
071 246 3000 Dealing: 071 246 3001				
Dresdner Eur Bd	39.54	41.51	+ 0.33	6.20
European Growth	261.57	277.55	+ 0.95	0.50
Exempt	503.75	526.23†	- 0.68	3.68
Global Em Mkts	82.01	87.47	- 0.17	0.86
Japan Tst	76.29	81.10	- 5.92	...
Little Dragons	79.40	84.69	- 0.87	..
Nth Amer Gwth	218.63	232.84†	+ 0.67	0.16
Oriental Income	42.32	45.14†	- 0.71	1.50
Preference	124.21	132.84	+ 1.24	8.80
Tiger	244.79	261.01	- 2.06	...
(Accum Units)	257.06	274.21	- 2.17	...
UK Blue Chip	58.80	62.81†	- 0.14	3.32
UK Growth	482.50	516.13†	+ 0.54	2.50
UK High Yield	97.96	104.77†	- 0.79	3.70
(Accum Units)	317.86	339.55†	- 2.58	3.70
UK Mid-Cap	244.47	261.46	- 1.73	2.10
UK Smlr Cos	97.98	104.77	- 0.47	1.10
UK Smlr Cos Div	89.51	94.58†	- 0.53	5.10
UNITED FRIENDLY UT TST MGMT LTD				
0277 690 300				
UK Equity Income	83.76	89.74	- 0.15	3.29
UK Equity Growth	83.46	88.78	- 0.21	2.41
European	66.88	71.15	- 0.12	0.80
Nth American	65.74	69.94	- 0.01	1.03
Far Eastern	68.93	73.33†	- 1.71	0.78
Money	57.02	57.02†	+ 0.04	4.83
Fixed Interest	69.98	74.43	+ 0.02	6.80
Index Linked Gilt	64.32	68.43	+ 0.10	1.34
WAVERLEY UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
031 225 1551				
Australasian Gold	27.87	29.42	+ 0.17	...
Pacific Basin	42.81	45.54	- 1.08	...
Global Bond (US$)	0.85	0.88	+ 0.00	...
Penny Share	32.58	34.78	- 0.69	...
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
071 600 0482				
Challenger	92.48	94.68	- 0.15	...
Short Dtd Gilt	109.70	111.30	+ 0.10	...
US Short Bo (US$)	0.72	0.74	+ 0.00	0.64
Gilt Income	48.57	50.55†	- 0.01	7.75
Gilt Growth	69.53	71.32	- 0.06	...
City Reserve	51.85	51.95†	+ 0.04	5.62
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
081 298 4080				
Intl Mngd	47.82	50.00	...	1.26
UK Stockmarket	74.30	78.83	- 1.29	2.67

Source: [illegible]

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return); † Ex dividend; ‡ Middle price; ... No significant data. # Periodic Charge deducted from capital; @ Exit Charge.

Equities extend losses

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
528	380½	Abbey Nat	420	− 4	4.5	14.4
314	233	Allied Irish	280	− 3	4.8	10.8
278¾	171	Aus New Z	204	+ 1	5.0	*
3300	2462½	Bank America	2637½	− 12½	...	...
347	172½	Bank Scotland	197	− 3½	3.4	11.1
648	487	Barclays	570	− 10	3.7	13.0
319	249	Bk of Ireland	294	− 4	4.0	8.5
2912½	2262½	Citicorp	2475	− 118¾	...	...
285½	203	Close Bros	219	− 1	4.3	9.9
£150¼	£121½	Commerzbk	£135½	+ 1¾	0.2	...
1265¾	1050¼	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1112½	− 62½	0.5	...
£34⅝	£27¼	Deutsche Bk	£29⅝	+ 40¾	2.3	...
1315⅝	750	Espirito Santo	771½	− 9¾	4.9	3.9
90	57	First Nat Fin	57	− 1	2.8	*
1549¼	1152½	Fuji Bank Y	1303¾	− 43¾	0.4	*
473	209	Hambros	246	− 3	7.8	15.1
1113	624	HSBC	626	− 18	4.9	9.8
1133	614	HSBC HK	615	− 18	5.0	8.9
443	393	Joseph (L)	393	...	5.6	11.4
693	424	Kleinwort Ben	574	− 4	4.2	10.1
660	518	Lloyds	554	...	5.2	10.9
630¾	472	Nat Aust Bk	516	+ 4	8.9	*
622	421	Nat West	467	− 10½	5.2	8.1
3300	2100	Ottoman Bank	2150	...	5.8	...
78	53	Rea Bros	66	...	1.8	10.5
528	377	Ryl Bk Scott†	389	+ 1	4.4	8.4
1574	1050	Schroders	1420	− 7	1.6	13.1
1458	1043	Schroders N/V	1303	− 7	1.8	11.9
114	75	Singer & Fried	85½	...	4.6	11.0
359¼	223	Stand Chart	255	− 8	3.1	8.8
231	197	TSB	227½	+ 2	5.1	*
1812	589	Warburg SG	731	− 14	3.8	13.4
£105	8612½	Wells Fargo	9043¼	− 318¼	3.2	...
260	194	Westpac	218¼	− 3¾	2.5	*
300	208	Wintrust	215	...	8.0	14.4

BREWERIES

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1025	150	Ascot Hldgs	155	− 2	...	...
619	485	Bass†	522	+ 4	5.1	13.2
298	248	Boddington	252	− 2	4.1	13.6
186	168	Burtonwood Brwt	173	...	3.7	14.5
181	142	Eldridge P 'A'†	157	− 1	3.3	*
66	40¾	Fosters Brewing	55	...	5.3	*
488	342	Fullr Sm 'A'†	352	...	2.8	14.8
511	399	Greenalls Grp†	417	− 1	3.9	20.7
584	452	Greene King†	520	− 9	3.2	14.1
287	239	Hardy Hansn	267	+ 3	4.5	*
170	135	Heavitree	155	...	3.2	13.9
3779	3125	Holt J	3420	...	1.8	18.8
246	195	Mansfield†	242	− 2	2.4	14.8
314	258	Marston Thmp	289	− 3	2.5	14.5
545	440	Morland†	463	...	2.9	13.9
10¾	6¾	Paramount	7	...	3.8	...
329	209	Regent Inns	324	− 1	2.1	24.8
1665¾	1000	SA Breweries	1400¾	...	2.1	22.1
591	477	Scott & Newc†	507	− 3	4.3	14.5
308	215	Vaux Group†	227	− 2	5.4	12.8
491	324½	Wetherspoon JD	472	− 2	1.7	26.0
617	484	Whitbread†	565	− 1	4.3	15.1
589	493	Wolverhmptn D†	507	− 4	3.4	13.4
208	148	Yates Bros†	201	− 2	2.4	15.8
535	463	Young 'A'	463	...	4.0	19.6

DISTRIBUTORS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
127	103	Abl Lsre†	103	...	4.9	11.8
317	248	Acatos	309	...	2.8	16.7
595	253	Adam & Harvey	585	...	3.3	7.5
31	21	Alexanders	21	...	3.0	19.5
175	111	Appleyard	111	...	8.5	19.6
8	3½	Ass Br Eng	4½	...	1.3	39.9
578	495	[illegible]	530	+ 1	4.4	18.3
25½	17	[illegible]	24½	+ 2	5.1	*
485	349	[illegible]	353	+ 2	5.2	10.4
40	28	Bogod 'A'†	28	...	3.7	11.8
370	288	Brammer	351	− 1	4.6	19.5
31	15	Brigend Gp	15	...	1.7	28.8
99	78	[illegible]	80	+ 1	3.0	...
71	40	Brown & Tawse	40	...	...	...
57	35	[illegible]	38	...	8.3	*
485	245	Caffyns	260	...	5.4	40.0
69	20¾	[illegible]	21	+	6.5	11.6
190	79	Central Mtr	79	− 1	4.5	*
51	22½	Cook (DC)†	41	...	3.5	12.6
342¾	197½	Cowie A	233	− 3	4.9	11.8
192¾	127	[illegible]	138	...	5.9	16.9
693	446	[illegible]	598	...	1.4	14.7
628	414½	Diploma	447	− 2	3.8	15.7
569	443	Electrocomponents	485	− 3	2.6	19.9
175	130	Electron House	165	...	2.7	17.0
283	225	Ellis & Everard†	255	...	3.8	18.8
224	201	Eurodollar	201	...	5.3	15.7
173	106	European Mtr	110	...	5.1	12.0
539¾	380	Evans Halshaw	380	...	4.8	12.2
658	400½	Farnell Elect	541	− 1	1.8	22.2
78	50	[illegible]	58	...	6.2	9.1
34	15	Gardiner	15	...	8.2	7.1
46	19	[illegible]	22	...	...	24.5
90	60	Gowrings	71	...	3.5	21.5
78	59	Hallite Hldgs	71	...	...	55.4
170	122	Harris (Philip)†	109	...	5.1	14.8
342¾	268	[illegible]	287	...	3.5	14.3
191	88	Holders Tech	94	...	8.0	19.2
139	107	ISA Intl	107	− 1	2.0	18.4
609	363½	Inchcape	363½	− 8¾	4.8	13.1
88	35	Jacks (Wm)	53	...	...	12.3
184	145	[illegible]	158	− 4	3.2	18.1
573	291	Lex Service	312	− 1	5.4	11.9
282	182	Lookers	155	...	4.6	...
20	14	[illegible]	15	...	2.1	...
8	3½	[illegible]	8¾	− ¼	...	...
440	279	[illegible]	429	...	0.7	18.7
100	47	[illegible]	92	...	1.8	38.1
175	152	PCT	152	...	6.1	14.7
310	232	Pendragon	244	− 1	3.8	19.0
230	141	Perry Gp	141	...	6.2	7.7
210	128	Quicks Group	126	...	5.3	13.9
166	97	REA	165	...	4.6	34.1
5¾	2¾	[illegible]	2¾	...	...	...
24	4	Ross Gp	5¾	...	4.5	*
42	32½	SEP Indl	39	− ½	3.4	*
44	31	TLS Range	42	− 1	3.0	18.9
285	215	Time Products	229	− 3	4.8	15.4
221	151	Vardy (Reg)	168	...	5.9	12.4
335	240	Wholesale Ftgs.	240	...	8.1	21.4
30½	13½	Willis Gp	18½	...	3.6	9.8
74½	39½	Wilshaw†	68¾	− ¾	7.2	23.5
69	40	Wyko	64	...	2.0	...
98	61	Young (H)†	74	...	6.1	...

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

ELECTRICITY

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

BUILDING MATERIALS

HEALTHCARE

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

ENGINEERING

INSURANCE

BUSINESS SERVICES

CHEMICALS

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

LEISURE & HOTELS

MEDIA

MINING

OIL & GAS

OTHER FINANCIAL

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
757	620	Caledonia	650	− 4	3.2	17.8
2650	1900	Camellia	2200	...	1.2	5.9
22¾	18½	Carlisle	18½		1.7	
639¾	443	Cater Allen	454		7.8	9.4
174¾	125	Cattles	150	− 1	4.4	16.8
86	33	Clerche	33			72.9
16	12	EFG	14		0.9	9.1
71½	45½	EFT Group	63	− 1	3.5	13.3
740	513	EFM	723	− 1	4.3	21.7
212	159	Escort	174	− 1	6.1	4.2
229	157	Gartmore	180½		2.8	22.9
515	395	Gerrard Nat	485		6.1	14.1
465	333	Govett	367	+ 1	5.0	6.1
1208	845	Henderson Ad	1070	− 5	5.3	14.8
251½	151	Invesco	171		2.7	28.1
50	37	Investment Co.1	44		5.0	14.1
250	185	Ivory Sime†	218		4.2	17.0
317	193½	Jardine Strat	218¼	− 3¾	3.8	8.8
438	103	Johnson Fry	129		1.5	4.1
170	100	King Shaxson	100	− 2	11.2	9.9
245	138	Lon Forfaiting	146		8.0	3.1
124	95	Lon Scot Bk	123		4.3	*
1243	784	M & G†	974	− 6	3.9	17.0
323	218	MAI	240	− 4	4.1	13.0
117½	85½	MAI 5.5% Cv Pf	83¾	− ½		
782	538	MAM	749	− 18	3.8	17.5
29¼	8¾	Nat Home Loan	12¾			
1288	970	Perpetual	1243	− 2	3.6	13.5
573	415	Provident	534	− 3	4.2	17.0
365	245	Rathbone Brs	248	− 1	4.3	12.3
29	21½	Rutland Tst	25½		4.4	12.9
369	281½	S & U	294	− 2	4.7	9.6
425	163	[illegible]	169	− 1	6.7	6.3
188	106	SJP Capital	126	− 1	3.0	8.9
436	324	Smith New Crt	432		2.9	5.0
604	322¾	Swire Pacific 'A'	322¾	− 21¾	2.9	*
324	76	Towry Law	77		7.3	6.6
65	23	[illegible]	24		0.5	10.9
199	87	[illegible]	89		6.3	8.2
31	20	Western Select†	24		1.3	

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
165	75	SWD	79	− 1	6.6	6.5
130	96	Baltic Plc	127		2.0	8.0
185	75	Barry Bch Nbl	77		8.3	11.6
215	152	Baotec Inv	152	− 1	...	
154	109	Brewin Dolphin	118	...	6.1	8.7

PHARMACEUTICALS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
615	311¾	Brit Biotech	530		...	...
482	328	Cantab Pharms	330	− 3		
243	191	Celltech	234			
151	88	Chiroscience	111	− 2	...	...
47	38	Cortecs	38			
157	104	Fisons	105½	− 1½	3.2	
735	520	Glaxo	643½	− 18½	5.2	15.5
185	95¼	Grampian Hldg	107	− 1	6.4	19.8
187	120	Medeva	172	+ 2	2.1	13.8
3	1¼	Premier Health	1½			
330	227	Quality Care†	250		2.2	*
314	242	Scotia	314	+ 6		
83	44	Shield Diag	55			
476	357½	SmithKline	464		3.3	18.1
444	322	SmithKline Uts	431½	− ½	3.6	16.8
731	498	Wellcome	688	+ 4	3.1	15.6
[illegible]	[illegible]	Zeneca	802	− 3	3.9	17.9

PRINTING & PAPER

PROPERTY

RETAILERS, FOOD

RETAILERS, GENERAL

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
11½	7½	ERA Gp	9	...		
284	135	Ecom Furn	138	− 8	3.9	17.2
226	212	Etam	212	− 4	4.5	11.7
558	346	Fine Art Dev	346		5.2	10.7
68	46	Fired Earth	63			
106	71	Flying Flowers	83		1.6	16.0
378	124	French Conn	270			11.4
354	306	Frost Group	219	− 1	3.1	22.1
66	49	Gieves	56		3.3	20.0
136	85	Goldsmiths Gp	132	− 1	1.2	23.7
653	493	GUS†	624	− 9	3.2	15.1
196	164	Hamleys	191		3.1	18.4
36	21	Hampden Grp	33		3.8	
227	163	Hse of Fraser	166		3.8	14.9
95	68½	Hughes (TJ)	82		3.9	13.5
778	396	Kingfisher	339	− 1½	4.7	10.5
276	170	[illegible]	178		1.7	*
425	275	Liberty	293	− 2	2.0	
380	277	Lloyds Chem	302	− 2	2.9	9.7
184	117	MFI†	124	− 1	4.2	15.5
460½	368½	Marks Spencer†	381	− 4½	3.1	16.9
660	495	Menzies (John)	501		2.9	12.3
377	238	Moss Bros	351		3.0	13.9
275	214	Next	260	+ 1	3.2	16.0
59	20	OEM	35			
57	39	Oliver (G)	92½			28.9
113	73	Partridge Fine	88	+ 5	4.1	11.9
37	10	Pentos	13	− ½		
368	150	QS Hldgs	151		4.3	16.5
62	14	Rhino Grp	14		4.5	13.3
309	130	Rosebys	130		4.6	15.2
132	99½	Sears	101	− 1½	4.6	17.1
46	16½	Signet Group	20			6.9
549	426	Smith WH	442	− 3	4.4	22.8
1262	698	Sotheby's	729	− 2	3.8	31.4
262	189	Storehouse†	225½	− ½	3.1	18.6
206	151½	Stylo	204		1.6	13.8
198	146	T & S Stores	159		4.9	11.3
173	114	Tie Rack	114	− 1	1.9	13.5
63¼	3¼	Upton & South	3¾			
539	384	Vendome†	460	− 1	2.1	35.4
79	28	WEW Group	32		2.7	27.1
93½	52	Wd of Leather	57		1.1	
195	138	Wyevale	157		3.6	16.6

SPIRITS, WINES & CIDERS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
683	519	Allied Domecq†	523	− 3	5.4	14.1
450	358	Bulmer (HP)†	393		3.5	21.2
140	105	Burn Stewart	118		5.3	25.9
505	363½	Grand Met†	366	− 3	4.8	17.2
542	412	Guinness	418	+ 3	3.9	13.8
457	353	Highland Dist	414		2.2	18.9
222	137	Macallan-Glen	214		0.7	56.1
710	386	Moeth Mntn 'A'	690		1.8	29.7
614	515	Matthew Clark	562	− 3	4.3	25.0
250	61	Merydew W	71		4.4	
190	142	[illegible]	147	− 2	5.7	11.4

SUPPORT SERVICES

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

TEXTILES & APPAREL

TRANSPORT

WATER

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
807	445	Anglian†	474	− 2	6.2	10.7
365	293	Mid Kent Hldgs	320	..	4.6	10.8
611	454	North West†	507	− 1	5.9	7.3
751	508	Northumbrian†	681	− 15	4.7	7.3
645	457	Severn Trent†	496	− 9	5.9	8.3
1895	1525	South Staffs	1680	− 5	3.6	11.4
675	459	South West	487	+ 7	6.7	7.2
692	466	Southern†	535	− 3	5.6	7.7
611	434¼	Thames†	465	− 4	6.3	7.0
744	546	Welsh†	696	− 11	5.5	6.6
379¾	263	Wessex†	269	− 7	5.7	7.0
830	458	Yorkshire†	485	− 15	6.1	7.1

Source: Finstat

◎ USM, # Price at suspension, † Ex dividend, ‡ Ex scrip, ▲ Ex rights issue, ▼ Ex all, § Ex capital distribution. * Figures on report awaited. .. No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 index.

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BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

1994/95 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
[illegible]	[illegible]	Gas 3% 1990-95	[illegible]	...	3.03	6.44
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 10¼% 1995	[illegible]	[illegible]	10.07	6.71
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 12¾% 1995	[illegible]	[illegible]	12.19	6.80
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 14% 1996	[illegible]	[illegible]	13.13	7.04
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 15¼% 1996	[illegible]	[illegible]	13.94	7.32
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 13¼% 1996	[illegible]		12.37	7.48
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 10% 1996	[illegible]		9.68	7.86
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7% 1997	[illegible]	..	7.19	8.19
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 13¼% 1997	[illegible]		12.42	8.10
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 10½% 1997	[illegible]	[illegible]	10.06	8.17
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8¾% 1997	[illegible]	...	8.67	8.34
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 15% 1997	[illegible]	[illegible]	12.97	8.47
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 9¾% 1998	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.45	8.54
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7¼% 1998	[illegible]	...	7.51	8.52
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	[illegible]		7.10	8.53
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 14% 1998-01	115		12.17	8.73
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 15½% 1998	[illegible]		12.77	8.63
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 12% 1998	[illegible]	[illegible]	10.86	8.72
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 9½% 1999	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.23	8.63
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 12¼% 1999	[illegible]	...	10.93	8.72
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 10½% 1999	[illegible]	...	9.86	8.68
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 6% 1999	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.64	8.62
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 10¼% 1999	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.68	8.71

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

1994/95 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 9% 2000	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.89	8.69
[illegible]	96	Treas 8% 2000	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.22	8.59
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 13% 2000	[illegible]	[illegible]	11.02	8.79
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 10% 2001	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.47	8.80
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7% 2001	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.67	8.72
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 9¾% 2002	[illegible]		9.30	8.82
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2003	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.37	8.75
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 10% 2003	107	[illegible]	9.35	8.82
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 11½% 2001-04	[illegible]	[illegible]	10.29	8.95
[illegible]	[illegible]	Fund 3½% 1999-04	[illegible]	[illegible]	4.73	7.40
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 9½% 2004	[illegible]	...	9.07	8.78
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 6¾% 2004	[illegible]	...	7.72	8.65
[illegible]	97	Treas 8½% 2005	[illegible]	..	8.59	8.64
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 9½% 2005	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.04	8.73
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 12½% 2003-05	[illegible]	[illegible]	10.34	9.01
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7¾% 2006	[illegible]		8.29	8.65
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2002-06	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.43	8.70
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	[illegible]	[illegible]	10.29	9.04
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8½% 2007	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.60	8.65
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 13½% 2004-08	[illegible]	[illegible]	10.59	9.02
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 9% 2008	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.75	8.84
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2009	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.42	8.63

LONGS (over 15 years)

1994/95 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 6¼% 2010	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.77	8.52
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 9% 2011	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.60	8.50
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 9% 2012	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.67	8.50
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 5½% 2008-12	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.44	8.35
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2013	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.42	8.54
[illegible]	92	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.38	8.54
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8¾% 2017	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.55	8.75
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 12% 2013-17	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.35	8.50

UNDATED

1994/95 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
[illegible]	[illegible]	War Ln 3½%	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.49	
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 2½%	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.66	

INDEX-LINKED

1994/95 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2% 1996	[illegible]	[illegible]	2.45	4.08
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	[illegible]	[illegible]	2.98	3.90
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2001	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.48	3.92
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2003	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.55	3.91
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅝% 2004	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.56	3.90
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2% 2006	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.62	3.89
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2009	[illegible]		3.67	3.90
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2011	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.69	3.90
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2013	130	...	3.71	3.90
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2016	[illegible]		3.73	3.91
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2020	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.76	3.91
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2024	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.75	3.89
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.78	3.92

[illegible] من الاهل

Great expectations in Dublin and Paris as rugby's five nations' championship gets under way

England proceed with appropriate degree of caution

FROM DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT, IN DUBLIN

BY ALL the normal canons, England should enter the five nations' championship arena this afternoon favoured to begin 1995 with a victory. But, *since they meet Ireland, the* loose cannon of the competition, they will walk out at Lansdowne Road with an appropriate degree of caution, *wary of what has gone before* and what could come again.

The unpredictability of the Irish is legendary, and long may it last. When sporting *contests can be reduced to* mechanical observation, we may all take up knitting. But the expectation of Ireland's support for this match, sponsored by *Irish Permanent* and the 108th in the series, is huge and not necessarily tempered with the realism of the Dublin taxi driver who said: "We are *hopeful — but not that* hopeful."

There was indeed pessimism for the Irish yesterday when they suffered their sec*ond withdrawal of the week:* Michael Bradley, the captain, dropped out on Wednesday because of his domestic circumstances and last night *Jonathan Bell, the left wing,* took medical advice and pulled out because of a thigh strain. His place will be taken by Niall Woods, 23, who was *capped twice in Australia last* summer and Maurice Field joins the replacements.

Good things come in threes, the Irish will tell themselves, *having beaten England in* 1993 and 1994. Or they may point to their front-row trio, which is definitely a good thing — though how good has yet to be defined. Keith Wood, *for example, is making his* debut in the championship, as are five of his colleagues, and they have not yet experienced the heady mix of fear and *fervour that this particular* competition induces.

Wood, the hooker who will lead the Ireland pack, is already spoken of in world*class terms, which is an alba*tross to hang round the neck of anybody after only three internationals and at the age of 22. Woods and David Corkery have had similarly limited international exposure.

FIVE NATIONS' CHAMPIONSHIP

Anthony Foley, Paul Burke and Niall Hogan have also not *represented their country at* all before, and the performance of Burke and Hogan at half back will be critical. Their management has spoken of *the experience acquired while* coming up through the junior representative levels, at which the two have played in harness before, but today is the ulti*mate test of their skill and* vision on a ground that is likely to be treacherous underfoot.

Nor could you argue that Ireland's *season thus far has promised much* — a lacklustre victory over the United States while England were scoring 114 points against Romania and Canada. The presence of *England, of course, inevitably* raises the stakes in Irish eyes: an English side, moreover, *in* which Jack Rowell, the manager, still seeks the mental hardness that was — and is — the hallmark of the Bath *teams that he coached.*

This is Rowell's debut in the five nations' championship, too, and always at the back of his mind he retains the image *of the England defeat in Cape* Town by South Africa last June, of a side on constant defence unable to create. Much the same happened to *England on their previous* visit here two years ago, but the mood is different now. "It's a big game," Rowell said. "If we win this one, it will propel *us upwards and confirm the* progress we believed we saw before Christmas."

The presence of Moore, Johnson and Richards serves *as a hard core to the pack and,* though Kyran Bracken, the scrum half, is assured of a warm welcome in the city of his birth, he could have no*body better to act as a sheet* anchor alongside him than Rob Andrew. But England, as always in recent years, are in that difficult midway area between success and style.

They should know by now that success breeds confi*dence, and confidence breeds* style. "We want to keep the dynamic of the game going," Rowell said. But that extends not only across the time-span *of this game but onward to the* next three championship outings and thence to the World Cup in South Africa.

Today is the day to keep it simple, to reduce mistakes to the minimum, put pressure on the opposition and pick up the points whenever the opportunity occurs. England may not be heartened by the presence, once again, of Patrick Thomas, the French referee who *made his international* debut in this fixture a year ago, and made the decision that turned what appeared to be a penalty to England into one for Ire*land. Eric Elwood stepped up* and kicked what turned out to be the winning points in a 13-12 victory.

There was snow on the Wicklow hills when England trained at Bray yesterday, and the forecast is not good. *Though both sides may seek to* expand their game, it is Ireland, notoriously, who prosper in foul conditions.

TODAY'S TEAMS IN DUBLIN

IRELAND		ENGLAND
C M P O'Shea (*Lansdowne*)	15	M J Catt (*Bath*)
S P Geoghegan (Bath)	14	T Underwood (Leicester)
B J Mullin (Blackrock College)*	13	W D C Carling (Harlequins)*
P P A Danaher (Garryowen)	12	J C Guscott (Bath)
N Woods (Blackrock College)	11	R Underwood (Leicester/RAF)
P A Burke (Cork Constitution)	10	C R Andrew (Wasps)
N A Hogan (Terenure College)	9	K P P Bracken (Bristol)
N J Popplewell (Wasps)	1	J Leonard (Harlequins)
K G M Wood (Garryowen)	2	B C Moore (Harlequins)
P M Clohessy (Young Munster)	3	V E Ubogu (Bath)
A Foley (Shannon)	6	T A K Rodber (Northampton/Army)
M J Galwey (Shannon)	4	M O Johnson (Leicester)
N J P Francis (Old Belvedere)	5	M C Bayfield (Northampton)
D Corkery (Cork Constitution)	7	B B Clarke (Bath)
P S Johns (Dungannon)	8	D Richards (Leicester)
* Captain		* Captain

Referee: P Thomas (France)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 M Field (Malone), 17 E P Elwood (*Lansdowne*), 18 A C Rolland (Blackrock College), 19 G M Fulcher (Cork Constitution), 20 G F Halpin (London Irish), 21 T J Kingston (Dolphin).

REPLACEMENTS: 16 J E B Callard (Bath), 17 P R de Glanville (Bath), 18 C D Morris (Orrell), 19 S O Ojomoh (Bath), 20 R G R Dawe (Bath), 21 G C Rowntree (Leicester).

Full back looking forward to trial by garryowen

David Hands meets a South African who is being thrown in at the deep end by England

When Mike Catt took *the field* **as England's replacement full back against Canada last month, a beady eye gazed down on him from the North** ***Stand at Twickenham. It was*** **the specially-mounted end-on camera, requested by the selectors so that they could study lines of running. What** ***they saw prompted Catt's*** **selection against Ireland this afternoon.**

"The boy's a natural," Les Cusworth, the assistant coach, *said. "He took up all the right* positions and we decided to take the positive view and keep him there." Catt's achievements in slightly less *than an hour after he replaced* the luckless Paul Hull included two searing tries and a hand in two more. But these were ideal conditions in *which to impress* — England, comfortably ahead, were able to express all their running skills.

What if this should be a dirty *Dublin day, rain sluic*ing down and Lansdowne Road apparently sprouting *men in green like the dragon's* teeth of legend? "It was taken into consideration that it might be wet and windy," Jack Rowell, England's manager, *said — prudently* enough, given the circumstances of another World Cup year, 1987, and England's opening championship game *in Dublin, when they tried to* play a dry-weather game in a downpour and lost 17-0.

"That would make it difficult for a newish full back," Rowell *added,* "but we balanced that against Catt's running skills." And these are considerable. Of all the young backs in England over the *past three seasons, Catt alone* has looked to have not only the ability to see space but the decision and the pace to use it.

"The Irish strategy will be to find out what I am like under the high ball, but it won't be like learning a new position in a hurry," Catt, 23, *said. "If you can read a game* of rugby, playing full back can be far easier than it seems — and I would like to classify myself as a footballer who can *read a match."*

Yet Catt, surely, is England's next stand-off half when Rob Andrew decides to retire; his line kicking is not *reliable enough for interna*tional rugby just yet, but he is easy on the ball and practice will make perfect. His tenure in the No 15 shirt must, of necessity, be brief; but then, England's planning is now focused heavily on a comparatively brief five months, covering the five nations' *championship* and the World Cup. The more international experience they can give him, the better and, once the tour*nament is over,* his long-term future can be determined.

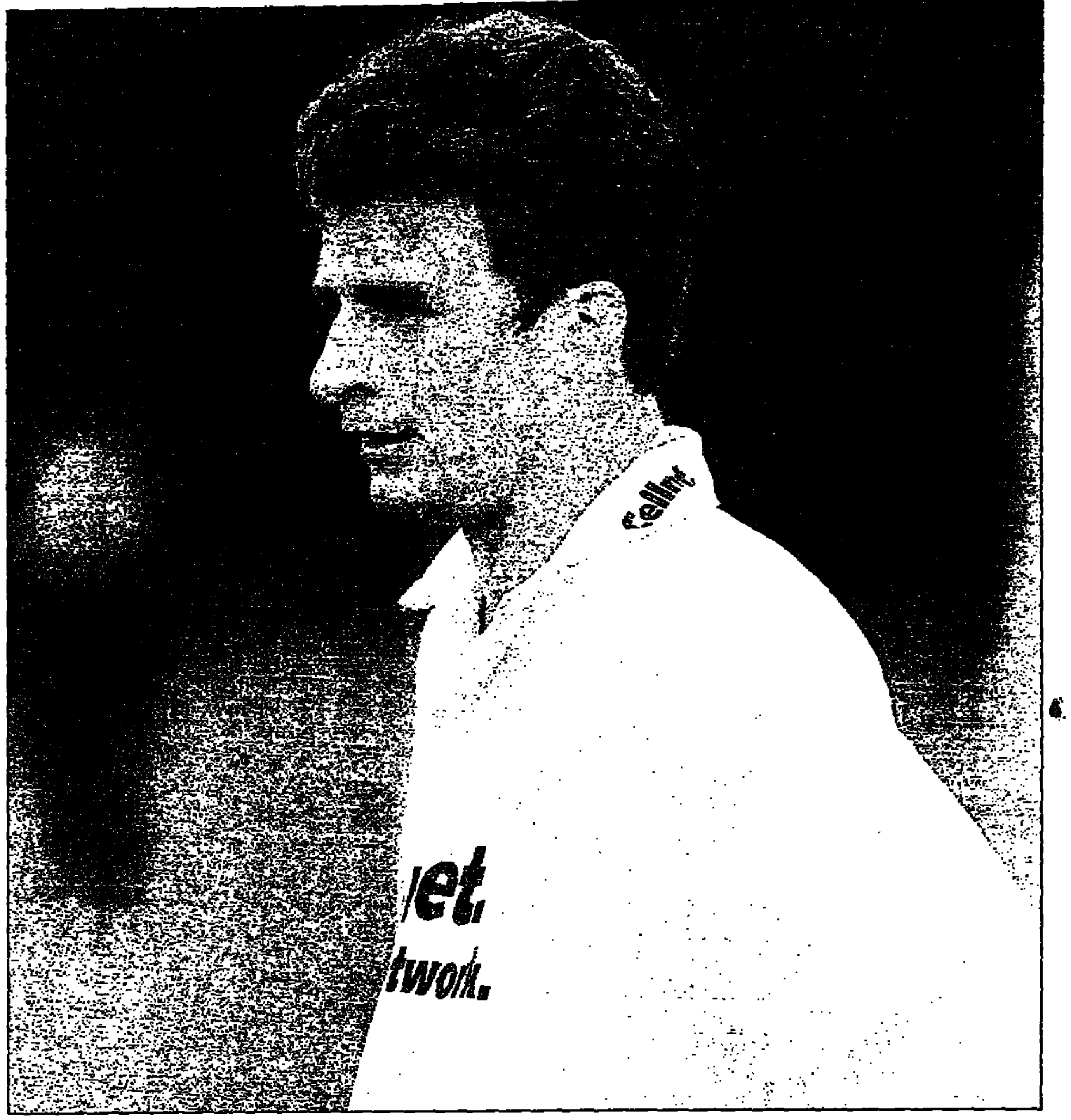
If that is considered hard on established full backs such as Hull and Jonathan Callard, *that is how it is in internation*al rugby these days. Sentiment plays no part for Rowell; it never did at Bath and it certainly will not do so at *national* level.

As for Catt, whose English mother gives his qualification, he has already made his longterm commitment to the Eng*land cause despite his birth* and upbringing in South Africa where he had a less-than-propitious time with Eastern Province before setting out to see the world — or at least the West Country.

Catt played full back at Grey High School, in Port Elizabeth, where he returned with England last summer. There he was joined, temporarily, by his brother Richard, who, because of injury to Dewi Morris, *occupied* the England replacements' bench during the now-notorious game with Eastern Province. However, when he joined *Crusader Technikon,* he moved to stand-off, where he made the handful of appearances for the provincial side that attracted rather more *attention two years later,* when he incautiously admitted accepting the going rate of "expenses", and brought down a Rugby Football Union inquiry on his head.

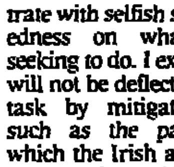
Both he and Rowell hope that period has now been exorcised, leaving Catt free to concentrate on his play. "It's something I have dreamed of," he said, after two appearances as a replacement. Dreaming is one thing, harsh *reality another, hence the* work that Catt has done in training this week, *in concert* with the Underwood brothers, so that they can combine effectively *under pressure.*

They worked together as a back-three *in Lanzarote over* the new year, when it became plain that Catt's all-round *qualities made him an attrac*tive alternative to the injured Hull. Should he survive the Irish shillelagh, his confidence, already high, will soar *for the summer — and* beyond.



Catt, enjoying time for reflection in training this week, faces a hectic examination at Lansdowne Road

Victory first, with bigger prize in mind



Rob Andrew, the England stand-off, believes teams will be fine-tuning for the World Cup

As ever, international rugby demands nothing less than total concentration but on the eve of this five nations' championship I suspect that all the teams have one thought in the back of their minds — the *World Cup. All the sides will* have a similar philospophy: to use these four matches in the coming two months to fine tune their games for what *they seek to do in South* Africa.

Of course, they want to win the five nations' championship and in our case we want *desperately to avoid a third* consecutive defeat against Ireland. *But* every country knows that another, quite different, examination awaits *them in six months.* Too great a focus solely on the championship would not necessarily be a recipe for success in South Africa.

Two things are of vital importance as we face Ireland at *Lansdowne Road this afternoon.* First, that we concentrate with selfish single-mindedness on what we are seeking to do. I expect that we will not be deflected from our task by mitigating factors *such as the passion with* which the Irish are bound to play and by Dublin's inclement weather. We must continue the process we began against Romania and Canada, developing a pattern of play in which we believe and know will serve us well if we can perfect it in time for the World Cup.

Second, is that we are not *deflected from the course we* have chosen. By their very nature, five nations' championship games are tense, taut, often frenetic affairs in which *the underdog is capable of* landing the knockout blow on the *champion's jaw just when* he is least expecting it. We know that better than anyone — losing to Ireland at Twickenham last season cost us a grand *slam. It was a lesson* we have not forgotten.

But if we are to arrive at the World Cup finals with a genuine chance of winning, it *is imperative at this stage that* we do not become side*tracked. I never want to lose* any match, let alone one amid the intensity of five nations' rugby. But this year, with the World Cup coming so soon, *we must be capable of survey*ing the grand plan. Having the overall vision to pursue our long-term aim is crucial.

That means not panicking *in specific situations if things are going against us, and also* displaying a tactical flexibility to take account of the opposition and the conditions. While it would be wonderful to go *into the World Cup as the* grand slam champions of Europe, the southern hemisphere sides will hardly be intimidated by that. They will *judge us on what we do* against them on the field in South Africa, not the tries we scored or goals we kicked in January or February.

Our approach to the finals has been measured and extensive. How we fare will tell us *something about how much* we have developed as a side. It is the same for the other four nations.

France will want to see whether they can improve still further the team and the *performances which enabled* them to beat New Zealand twice last summer; Scotland will be anxious to bed in *many new men to forge a* brighter *future* and Wales will look at *what they did* against South Africa last autumn and plan greater improvements to their impressive display.

*Today Ireland will be look*ing closely at their new halfback combination to see what sort of a future the pair might offer them. But I would extend my condolences to Michael Bradley and his wife, Gillian, for the loss of their baby son last weekend. The Irish are not the only ones who have their captain in their thoughts at this time.

Wales face a difficult game *in Paris, given their many* injuries and absentees. But here, too, I sense the Welsh selectors will look as much for signs of enhancement to the team *display as the actual* result against France. That is *natural* and in no way diminishes the excitement every rugby supporter here feels at this time of year.

☐ *Interview by Peter Bills*

Hastings says Scotland cannot afford to lose

BY MARK SOUSTER

WITH events in Dublin and Paris taking centre-stage this afternoon, there is a danger that the international between Scotland and Canada will be dismissed as an irrelevent sideshow. *To do so would be wrong.* The ingredients that make the five nations' championship so special may be missing, but the match has huge significance for the game in Scotland.

Gavin Hastings, who today wins his 52nd cap — to equal the Scottish record — believes that the ten changes *made after the South African débâcle* signal the start of an exciting new era. "I expect the nucleus of the side over the next four or five years will be in this side," he said. "We have such *tremendous talent coming through."*

The captain believes that a victory is more important than the manner in which it is achieved. "We have specific tactics for the match which we are confident will produce a result. We are all going out with a game-plan and will stick to it."

Last year was Scotland's annus horibilis, but closer analysis shows that, with a little luck, at least two results could have been different. The *spineless capitulation against the* Springboks, however, ensured the most radical overhaul of a Scotland side since 1952.

There are three new caps, with *David Hilton, of Bath, a late replace*ment for Alan Sharp, joining his club colleague Eric Peters, and the lock, Stewart Campbell, of Dundee HSFP. These last two, with Rob Wainwright *and Damian Cronin, will ensure a* stream of lineout possession.

The changes have brought a healthy exuberance and spirit to the squad. "We have an awful lot of youth and pace coming into the side and it is important this is shown," Hastings said. "It would be good for the Scottish public to see that."

SCOTLAND: G Hastings (Watsonians, capt); C Joiner (Melrose), G Townsend (Gala), I Jardine (Stirling County), K Logan (Stirling County); C Chalmers (Melrose), B Redpath (Melrose); D Hilton (Bath), K Milne (Heriot's FP), P Wright (Boroughmuir), R Wainwright (West Hartlepool), D Cronin (Bourges), S Campbell (Dundee HSFP), I Morrison (London Scottish), E Peters (Bath).

CANADA: S Stewart (UBC Old Boys), W Stanley (University of BC), C Stewart (Rovigo), S Gray (Kats), R Toews (Meralomas); G Rees (Oxford University and Newport, capt), J Graf (UBC Old Boys), E Evans (IBM Toyoko), M Cardinal (James Bay), D Jackart (UBC Old Boys), I Gordon (James Bay), M James (Burnaby Lake), K Whitley (Calgary Irish), G Mackinnon (Ex Britannia Lions), C McKenzie (UBC Old Boys).

England second string gain narrow victory

Ireland A 20
England A 21

FROM DAVID HANDS
IN DUBLIN

ENGLAND *have lost only once* at second team level to the Irish in seven encounters but they have never distinguished themselves at Donnybrook. That solitary defeat was on the same *ground four years ago; in 1993* they survived there by four points and yesterday, on a raw blustery afternoon, *the margin was even slimmer.*

Ireland fielded eight senior caps against England's two and held the lead for nearly an hour, but England's fresh-faced forwards matched their opponents. Chivvied by Back, they survived the hurly-burly of the lineout and Hardwick supported Hopley *splendidly when England put together* the late try which put them just beyond reach, Bates working second phase ball away to Sleightholme who found Back looping to score.

Hopley's steadiness under pressure proved invaluable in the first half when Ireland, the wind behind them, dominated territorially *and* would have led by *more than* 10-3 at the interval had not McGowan missed two penalties. The number of charged-down kicks suggested that offside was not the referee's prime consideration, one such leading *to the maul* from which David O'Mahony nipped over.

But early in the second half England drove a five-metre scrum to give Diprose the try and when Grayson struck a 40-*metre penalty their* noses stayed in front, though they were relieved to hear the final whistle after Bates's clearance was charged down and Mulcahy flopped over for Ireland's second try.

SCORERS: Ireland A: Tries: David O'Mahony, Mulcahy. Conversions: McGowan (2). Penalty goals: McGowan (2). England A: Tries: Diprose; Back. Conversion: Grayson. Penalty goals: Grayson (2). Dropped goal: Grayson.

IRELAND A: J Staples (Harlequins); R Wallace (Garryowen), M Field (Malone), M McCall (Bangor), Derragh O'Mahony (UCD); A McGowan (Blackrock College), David O'Mahony (Cork Constitution); J Fitzgerald (Young Munster), W Mulcahy (Skerries), P Wallace (Blackrock College), E Halvey (Shannon), D Tweed (Ballymena), R Costello (Garryowen), W McBride (Malone, captain), B Cronin (Garryowen). Cronin temporarily replaced by R Wilson (Instonians), 19-21 min.

ENGLAND A: A Tunningley (Saracens); D Hopley (Wasps), S Potter (Leicester), N Greenstock (Wasps), J Sleightholme (Bath); P Grayson (Northampton), S Bates (Wasps, captain); R Hardwick (Coventry), M Regan (Bristol), J Mallett (Bath), L Dallaglio (Wasps), G Archer (Newcastle Gosforth), S Shaw (Bristol), N Back (Leicester), A Diprose (Saracens).

Referee: N Lasaga (France).

SCRUM DOWN FOR RUGBY TICKETS WITH SCRUMPY JACK

SCRUMPY JACK
OFFICIAL SUPPORTER ENGLAND RUGBY TEAM

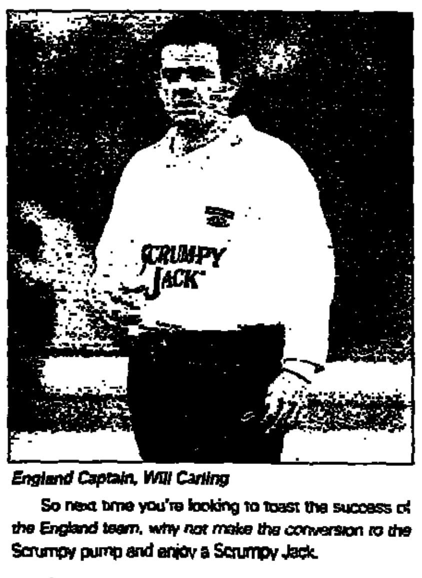
DEMAND for tickets for every Five Nations Rugby Union Championship match always exceeds supply - and this season will be no exception.

But here is a glimmer of hope if you are without a ticket for the England v *France clash at Twickenham on February 4 or the* England v Scotland Calcutta Cup match also at Twickenham, which could decide the championship on March 18.

Scrumpy Jack premium cider, an offical supporter of the England team, *is offering one lucky Times reader the* chance to win a pair of tickets for one of the matches, as well as five lucky runners up who will win a years supply of Scrumpy Jack.

Scrumpy Jack is made by Symonds Cider in the Herefordshire hamlet of Stoke Lacy and is Britain's favourite premium draught cider and like the team it's *English through and through.*

It is made exclusively with the fresh pressed juice of English apples to ensure a unique, clean, crisp taste and is available *on draught* and in bottles in more than 14,000 pubs, clubs and bars throughout the country as well as in cans *and bottles in supermarkets* and off-licenses nationwide.



England Captain, Will Carling

So next time you're looking to toast the success of *the England team, why not make the conversion to the* Scrumpy pump and enjoy a Scrumpy Jack.

[illegible]

1) Who holds the world points scoring record for an international match and how many points did he score?
2) *By what score did England beat Romania at* Twickenham in November 1994?
3) What gives Scrumpy Jack its clean crisp taste?

[illegible]

Scrumpy Jack Rugby Promotions
c/o Powell Communications, 3 The Parsonage,
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Saturday 28 January 1995.

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No purchase necessary, no cash alternative. Entrants must be *UK residents aged 18 years or over. Entries cannot be accepted* from employees and their families, or agencies and their families *of News International or H P Bulmer and their respective* subsidiary companies. Judges decision is final. No responsibility *will be accepted for lost entries. The Winner will be the first correct* entry drawn out of the hat. Winners will be notified by post.

Scrumpy Jack Draught Cider

Wales pray for rain and cling to dream

From Gerald Davies in Paris

PARIS has been wet and windy. There is the promise of more rain, but less wind. That the wind, which can so unbalance a rugby match, may drop will please France and Wales, but that the dampness is to continue should please only Wales in the five nations' championship match at Parc des Princes this afternoon.

France have stated their preference for dry weather and the running game. Wales have said as much, too, but *their declaration is* less convincing and the Wales supporters are hoping for a deluge.

France can feel they have much to swagger about. In the past 18 months they have beaten the cream of world rugby. They defeated Australia at home, but had to travel to the intensely intimidating corners of the world to gain their other successes. They had a draw and a win in South Africa, but more impressive still was their tour last summer to New Zealand, from where they returned unbeaten in two internationals and with the series in their pockets.

Of the five countries with a realistic chance of winning the World Cup this summer, only their *bête noir*, England, remain to be conquered. It is this last confrontation that many believe will prove to be decisive in this championship, and it is hard to disagree.

France themselves believe this to be the case even if, somewhat unconvincingly, they are talking it down in public. In preparing for Wales, they are hiding behind romantic notions of what their opponents represent or, at least, what they have achieved in the past. Franck Mesnel, the France threequarter at present out with injury, said that Wales "in their hearts have a long story to tell". There we are, then: a Frenchman attempting the Englishman's gift for understatement. Or is he being economical with the *actualité*?

Wales will indeed have much need of heart this afternoon and much else to boot, especially the precious one that Neil Jenkins, the stand-off half, wears on his right foot, and which has seen him accumulate 320 points in 29 international matches.

Wales cannot rely solely on this, however reliable his success rate. They must not only summon up the spirit to overcome their initial trepidation, but also impose their will on a French team whose confidence, even at the best of times, can be brittle.

The first is a psychological hurdle, and is the easier to overcome. The second needs an implacable physical presence to accompany the desire. There is not only the matter of withstanding the French power, but also of exerting authority over it. It is then that France may begin to ask questions, not of others but themselves, and is vital if there is to be hope of a win.

This, as the records show, is achievable away from Paris, but rarely here. This confrontation begins unflinchingly at forward, and must last not a minute less than the full 80. Any loosening of this grip and the French can strike as no other team can, as they showed against — *of all teams* — the All Blacks, who have taught the rugby world what it is to play until the final whistle. With seconds remaining of the second international in New Zealand in June, France scored a winning try of majestic rhythm and daring.

France may yet have developed *an irresistible combination.* Pierre Berbizier, their coach, has continued with the pragmatism that was evident during Jacques Fouroux's reign, but appears to have allied it to the instinctive panache so traditionally and distinctly French.

What confidence Wales may have harboured after their recent match against South Africa stemmed largely from winning more than their share of lineout possession through Gareth Llewellyn and Derwyn Jones, but it has been dented by the seemingly unending list of players unavailable through injury or illness. The latest victim is Proctor, the wing, who has flu and who has been replaced by Simon Hill. He wins his seventh cap.

Wales's lineout experts will compete against Merle and Roumat in an area that is likely to prove the most contentious *in the championship.* Against a new Welsh combination and what, nowadays, may be considered a vertically challenged back row of the two Davieses and Collins, France have the impressive Benetton, Benazzi and Cabannes. If Wales's front row are gaining in stature, it is in the back five of the scrum that the outcome is likely to be determined. Last season, Wales beat France in Cardiff for the first time in 12 years, but they have to go back 20 years for their last win here. The dream of victory looks as elusive as ever.

ROBERTO CRISTOFOLI

Walker, the Wales wing, takes a pass during training yesterday for the match against France in Paris

TODAY'S TEAMS IN PARIS

FRANCE		WALES
J-L Sadourny (Colomiers)	15	A Clement (Swansea)
E N'Tamack (Toulouse)	14	S D Hill (Cardiff)
P Sella (Agen)	13	M R Hall (Cardiff)
T Lacroix (Dax)	12	M Taylor (Pontypool)
P Saint-André (Montferrand)*	11	N Walker (Cardiff)
C Deylaud (Toulouse)	10	N R Jenkins (Pontypridd)
G Accoceberry (Bègles-Bordeaux)	9	R N Jones (Swansea)
L Benezech (Racing)	1	R L Evans (Llanelli)
J-M Gonzales (Bayonne)	2	G R Jenkins (Swansea)
C Califano (Toulouse)	3	J D Davies (Neath)
A Benazzi (Agen)	6	S Davies (Swansea)
O Merle (Montferrand)	4	D Jones (Cardiff)
O Roumat (Dax)	5	G O Llewellyn (Neath)*
L Cabannes (Racing)	7	R G Collins (Pontypridd)
P Benetton (Agen)	8	P T Davies (Llanelli)
* Captain		* Captain

Referee: J Pearson (England)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 S Viars (Brive), 17 Y Delaigue (Toulon), 18 A Macabiau (Perpignan), 19 M Cecillon (Bourgoin), 20 M de Rougemont (Toulon), 21 L Seigne (Brive).

REPLACEMENTS: 16 M Back (Bridgend), 17 R H StJ B Moon (Llanelli), 18 R L Jones (Treorchy), 19 A H Copsey (Llanelli), 20 M Griffiths (Cardiff), 21 R C McBryde (Llanelli).

France look for rich quality in half-back vintage

David Hands *assesses the explosive mixture on which Gallic hopes depend in the Parc des Princes*

In France, the No 9 is perennially the main man, the boss, the whipper-in. Where other countries may look to the stand-off half at No 10 to place order on a match, scrum half seems always to have been the position of influence — not only as the natural hub of a rugby team but in terms of personality.

More often than not representative French sides will be led from scrum half, too, which is why the emergence of a new and, dare one say, mature half-back pairing for the five nations' championship this year arouses more than usual interest: against Wales at the Parc des Princes today, both Guy Accoceberry and Christophe Deylaud will take their championship bow.

They do so under more propitious circumstances than once seemed likely: their first match together was against *Canada last year, the preliminary* international to the tour of New Zealand, won by the Canadians 18-16. However, they stayed for the historic series victory over the All Blacks, parted briefly for the return game with Canada in Besançon last month because of Deylaud's three-month convalescence after an operation, *and now join hands again.*

Whoever followed Pierre Berbizier at scrum half had a void to fill. Even after he swiftly became the national coach, he cast a long shadow. For three years Fabien Galthié and Aubin Hueber jousted as his successor, and now comes the chemist from Bordeaux, Accoceberry.

At 27, he is scarcely in the first flush of youth — the penalty for staying loyal to his first club, Tyrosse, some 30 kilometres from Dax. "I could miss training and still play weekends," Accoceberry said. *"In a big club it would have* been impossible. I love rugby but it's not everything in life."

Now, however, he has married (another chemist) and settled in Bordeaux where he plays for Bègles in the top flight. "I like to organise the game and I love to touch the ball," he said. "I couldn't spend most of the match without seeing it. Life is beautiful now but I know things can change fast."

His partnership with Deyland may be far from established but they are in pole position for the World Cup, *if not beyond: Deylaud,* at 30, is even more advanced in years, though Berbizier has often said that he disregards age so long as the player is the best in his position.

For many seasons Deylaud has been a mercurial character in French rugby, talented but unpredictable. For years he carried the Blagnac club, in *the suburbs of Toulouse,* before trying his hand with Toulon for a season; his style proved too adventurous and he moved back, but this time to the Stade Toulousain itself to battle with Philippe Rouge-Thomas and, later, Rob Andrew, for the stand-off berth.

He moved to centre, where he was capped *against Romania,* Argentina and South Africa in 1992 before being replaced by the more muscular Thierry Lacroix. Disappointment has hardened Deylaud but, more than that, he has become an improved team player, an integral part of the Toulouse side which last June won the French championship in a vivid final with Montferrand.

The quick hands of the man of mercury, the bouncy confidence of the chemist; together they should form a potentially explosive mixture to which Welsh technicians will do well *to discover an antidote.*

COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
Pools coupon numbers in brackets
** denotes all-ticket*

FA Carling Premiership
(1) Coventry v Arsenal
( ) Everton v C Palace
(2) Ipswich v Chelsea
(3) Leicester v Leeds
(4) Nottm For v A Villa
(5) QPR v Norwich
(6) Sheff Wed v Newcastle
(7) *Southampton v West Ham
( ) *Tottenham v Man City
(8) Wimbledon v Liverpool

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Blackburn	23	17	4	2	52	18	55
Man Utd	24	15	5	4	45	20	50
Liverpool	24	13	6	5	44	20	45
Nottm F	24	12	6	6	38	26	42
Newcastle	23	11	8	4	41	25	41
Tottenham	24	11	6	7	41	35	39
Wimbledon	24	10	5	9	30	38	35
Leeds	23	9	7	7	29	27	34
Norwich	24	9	6	9	22	25	33
Sheff Wed	24	8	8	8	31	32	32
Man City	24	8	7	9	33	38	31
Chelsea	23	8	6	9	30	31	30
Arsenal	24	7	8	9	27	27	29
Southampton	24	6	10	8	34	39	28
QPR	23	7	6	10	35	40	27
C Palace	24	6	8	10	17	22	26
Coventry	24	6	8	10	21	40	26
A Villa	24	5	10	9	29	34	25
West Ham	24	7	4	13	22	30	25
Everton	23	5	8	10	22	32	23
Ipswich	24	5	4	15	26	47	19
Leicester	24	3	6	15	22	43	15

Endsleigh Insurance League
First division
(9) Bolton v Charlton
(10) Bristol City v Sheff Utd
(11) Burnley v Reading
(—) Luton v Wolverhampton
(12) Middlesbrough v Grimsby
(—) Millwall v Swindon
(13) Southend v Port Vale
(14) Stoke v Barnsley
(15) Sunderland v Notts County
(16) West Bromwich v Watford

ARTHUR DUNN CUP: First round: Lancing v Chigwellians. Second round: Foresters v Wykehamists; Reptonians v Brentwoods.

First division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Middlesboro	28	14	6	8	40	24	48
Wolvrhmptn	27	14	5	8	49	34	47
Bolton	27	12	8	7	39	29	44
Tranmere	27	12	7	8	40	30	43
Sheff Utd	27	11	9	7	43	29	42
Reading	27	11	8	8	31	26	41
Barnsley	26	12	5	9	32	31	41
Oldham	27	10	8	9	37	33	38
Watford	27	9	11	7	28	28	38
Grimsby	26	9	10	7	39	36	37
Luton	27	10	7	10	38	34	37
Millwall	27	9	10	8	34	32	37
Derby	26	9	9	8	30	27	36
Stoke	26	9	8	9	28	31	35
Southend	27	10	5	12	28	46	35
West Brom	27	9	7	11	25	33	34
Charlton	26	8	9	9	40	40	33
Sundrland	26	6	13	7	26	25	31
Portsmth	27	7	9	11	28	38	30
Swindon	26	7	8	11	34	42	29
Port Vale	25	7	7	11	30	34	28
Burnley	24	6	9	9	26	34	27
Bristol City	27	6	6	15	20	36	24
Notts County	26	5	6	15	25	36	21

Second division
(17) Birmingham v Shrewsbury
(18) Bradford v Bristol Rovers
(19) Brighton v Cardiff
(20) Cambridge Utd v Bournemouth
(21) Chester v Peterborough
(22) Huddersfield v York
(23) Hull v Brentford
(24) Leyton Orient v Blackpool
(25) Oxford Utd v Stockport
(26) Plymouth v Rotherham
(27) Swansea v Crewe
(28) Wycombe v Wrexham

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Atherstone v Solihull; Gloucester v Cambridge City; Gravesend and Northfleet v Hastings; Trowbridge v Burton; Worcester v Corby. Southern division: Ashford v Baldock; Bashley v Witney; Braintree v Salisbury; Burnham v Yate; Clevedon v Wealdstone; Fareham v Erith and Belvedere; Havant v Fisher 93; Margate v Weymouth; Newport IoW v Bury Town; Poole v Weston-super-Mare; Tonbridge AFC v Waterlooville. Midland division: Armitage v Grantham; Bedworth v Forest Green; Bilston v Redditch; Bridgnorth v Moor Green; Hinckley Town v Nuneaton; King's Lynn v Dudley Town; RC Warwick v Leicester United; Stourbridge v Newport AFC; Tamworth v Evesham.

Second division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Birmingham	25	14	8	3	47	17	50
Huddersfld	26	13	8	5	46	32	47
Oxford Utd	25	14	4	7	43	31	46
Crewe	26	14	4	8	52	45	46
Brentford	25	14	3	8	46	23	45
Wycombe	24	13	6	5	35	27	45
Bristol R	23	11	9	3	41	21	42
Hull	26	12	6	8	42	36	42
Stockport	25	12	3	10	39	33	39
Bradford	26	11	6	9	35	36	39
Blackpool	26	12	3	11	41	44	39
York	25	11	5	9	38	25	38
Wrexham	23	10	7	6	42	32	37
Swansea	25	9	10	6	32	26	37
Rotherham	25	9	5	11	31	31	32
Peterboro	25	7	10	8	31	43	31
Brighton	25	7	9	9	28	33	30
Cambs Utd	26	7	8	11	36	43	29
Shrewsbury	25	7	5	13	31	34	26
Plymouth	23	6	4	13	23	48	22
Cardiff	27	5	6	16	27	42	21
Bournemth	26	4	6	16	23	50	18
L Orient	25	4	5	16	17	39	17
Chester	25	3	4	18	16	47	13

Third division
(29) Barnet v Lincoln
(—) Doncaster v Exeter
(30) Fulham v Northampton
(31) Gillingham v Colchester
(32) Hereford v Chesterfield P
(33) Preston v Mansfield
(34) Rochdale v Carlisle
(35) Scarborough v Bury
(36) Scunthorpe v Torquay
(37) Walsall v Darlington
(38) Wigan v Hartlepool

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Carlisle	23	17	5	1	44	15	56
Walsall	23	12	7	4	42	24	43
Bury	22	12	6	4	32	16	42
Chestrfld	24	12	6	6	33	26	42
Mansfield	25	12	4	9	51	37	40
Barnet	23	11	6	6	31	28	39
Doncaster	24	10	7	7	32	21	37
Torquay	24	10	7	7	34	31	37
Colchester	24	10	7	7	33	34	37
Preston	24	11	3	10	31	25	36
Scunthrpe	24	10	5	9	38	31	35
Fulham	25	8	10	7	30	30	34
Darlington	24	8	6	10	26	28	30
Lincoln	23	8	5	10	26	28	29
Rochdale	24	8	5	11	31	47	29
Hartpool	23	6	6	11	22	34	24
Exeter	23	6	5	12	18	37	23
Wigan	22	6	4	12	31	38	22
Hereford	24	5	7	12	29	45	22
Northmptn	24	4	9	11	20	30	21
Gillingham	23	5	5	13	25	35	20
Scarboro	23	3	5	15	23	45	14

Unibond Northern Premier League
Premier division
(—) Boston v Frickley
(39) Chorley v Accrington Stanley
(—) Droylsden v Matlock
(—) *Gainsborough v Knowsley*
(40) Horwich v Emley
(41) Whitley Bay v Buxton

Bell's Scottish League
Premier division
(42) Dundee Utd v Motherwell
(43) Hibernian v Aberdeen
(44) Kilmarnock v Falkirk
(45) Partick v Celtic
(46) *Rangers v Hearts*

First division
(47) Clydebank v Dundee
(48) Dunfermline v Hamilton
(49) St Johnstone v St Mirren
(50) Stranraer v Raith

Second division
(51) Brechin v Berwick
(52) Clyde v Queen of South
(53) Dumbarton v Stirling
(54) East Fife v Stenhousemuir
(55) Meadowbank v Greenock Morton

Third division
(56) Albion v Montrose
(57) Alloa v Forfar
(58) Arbroath v Cowdenbeath
(—) East Stirling v Ross County
(—) Queen's Park v Caley This

FA UMBRO TROPHY: First round: Bamber Bridge v Halifax; Billingham v Ashton United; Bishop Auckland v Gateshead; Boreham Wood v Grays; Bromsgrove v Enfield; Chelmsford v Yeovil; Farnborough v Dover; Gresley v Stafford; Hednesford v Altrincham; Ilkeston v Winsford; Kingstonian v Yeading; Leek v Durham City; Marine v Whitby; Merthyr v Slough; Molesey v Cheltenham; Newbury v Rothwell; Runcorn v Northwich; Rushden and Diamonds v Sudbury; Spennymoor v Morecambe; St Albans v Kidderminster; Stalybridge v Hyde; Stevenage v Dagenham and Redbridge; Sutton United v Bath; Telford v Southport; VS Rugby v Aylesbury; Walton and Hersham v Kettering; Welling v Marlow; West Auckland Town v Macclesfield (at Macclesfield); Witton v Guiseley; Woking v Chesham. Postponed: Colwyn Bay v Blyth Spartans; Gretna v Halesowen.

UNIBOND NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: First division: Caernarfon v Mossley; Eastwood Town v Atherton LR; Farsley Celtic v Workington; Fleetwood v Alfreton; Gt Harwood v Congleton; Harrogate Town v Lancaster; Radcliffe v Netherfield; Warrington v Goole; Worksop v Curzon Ashton.

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Carshalton v Bromley; Harrow v Wokingham; Hitchin v Dulwich; Purfleet v Hayes. First division: Barking v Worthing; *Basingstoke v Dorking; Billericay v Alder*shot Town; Bognor Regis v Heybridge Swifts; Leyton v Whyteleafe; Maidenhead v Chertsey; Tooting and Mitcham v Staines; Uxbridge v Wembley. Second division: Banstead v Thame; Barton v Oxford City; Chalfont St Peter v Aveley; Cheshunt v Bracknell; Croydon v Witham; Edgware v Windsor and Eton; Egham v Saffron Walden; Hampton v Tilbury; Hemel Hempstead v Ware; Malden Vale v Hungerford; *Metropolitan Police v Leatherhead.* Third division: Bedford Town v Collier Row; Camberley v Epsom and Ewell; Canvey Island v Northwood; Cove v Leighton; Hertford v Clapton; Hornchurch v Harefield; Horsham v Feltham and Hounslow B; Lewes v Kingsbury; Southall v Harlow.

FA VASE: Fourth round replay: Eastwood Hanley v Stocksbridge Park Steels; Diss v Ossett Albion.

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Barry v Caersws, Connah's Quay v Bangor City; Conwy v Holywell; Cwmbran v Aberystwyth; Ebbw Vale v Maesteg Park; Flint Town v Newtown (2.30): Llansantffraid v Rhyl.

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: *Premier* division: Amersham v Tower Hamlets; Beaconsfield Sycob v St Margaretsbury; Brook House v Croydon; Corinthian-Casuals v Haringey; Hanwell v Walthamstow Pennant; Hillingdon v Brimsdown; Waltham Abbey v Cockfosters; Willesden v Barkingside.

PARASOL COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ashford v Chipstead; Bedfont v Merstham, Cobham A v Hartley Wintney; Cranleigh v Horley; DCA Basingstoke v Ash; Viking Sports v Godalming and Guildford.

MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Hatfield v Hoddesdon. *Letchworth GC* v Harpenden, Welwyn GC v Potters Bar. Trophy: Third round: Shillington v Brache Sparta; Wingate and Finchley v Risborough; London Colney v Langford, Arlesey Town v Royston.

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: *Premier division:* Basildon v Burnham Ramblers, Bowers v Maldon; Concord v Romford; Ford v East Ham; Great Wakering v Hullbridge Sports; Sawbridgeworth v Brentwood; Southend Manor v Stansted.

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Barwell v Shifnal; Chasetown v Pershore, Halesowen Harriers v Willenhall; Knypersley Victoria v Hinckley Athletic; Oldbury v Stapenhill; Rocester v Paget; *Rushall Olympic v Sandwell Borough;* Shepshed v Boldmere St M; Stratford v Brierley Hill; West Midlands Police v Bolehall Swifts.

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: *Almondsbury v Kintbury;* Brackley v Cinderford; Cirencester v Carterton; Highworth v Fairford; North Leigh v Bicester; Pegasus Juniors v Tuffley; Shortwood v Abingdon.

SKOL MIDLAND FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Premier division: Alvechurch Villa v Upton; Meir KA v Coleshill; Sherwood Celtic v Handrahan Timbers; Studley BKL v *Highgate. Cup: Second round:* Dudley Sports v GPT (Coventry).

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bideford v Torrington; Bristol Manor Farm v Bridport; Elmore v Calne; Liskeard v *Mangotsfield:* Odd Down v Barnstaple; Taunton v Chippenham; Tiverton v Paulton; Westbury v Saltash.

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Canterbury v Corinthian; Cray v Beckenham; Crockenhill v Herne Bay; Deal v Greenwich; Kent Police v Darenth Heathside; Sheppey v Slade Green; Tunbridge Wells v Chatham. Cup: Dartford v Faversham.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: *Premier division:* Fakenham v Cornard, Felixstowe v Great Yarmouth, Harwich and Parkeston v Halstead; Haverhill v Wroxham; Lowestoft v Hadleigh, Soham v Stowmarket; Sudbury v Chatteris. Tiptree v March; Wisbech v Woodbridge

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: AFC Lymington v Andover. Aerostructures v Bemerton Heath Harl; BAT v Portsmouth RN; Cowes Sports v AFC Totton; Fleet v Wimborne; Horndean v Bournemouth; Petersfield v Eastleigh, Ryde Sports v Brockenhurst; Swanage and Herston v Thatcham.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Arsenal v Wimbledon.

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Arundel v Ringmer; Crowborough v Whitehawk, East Grinstead v Eastbourne Town; Langney Sports v Newhaven; Portfield v Hailsham; Stamco v Pagham. *Three Bridges v Shoreham*

HEREWARD SPORTS UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Bourne v Stotfold, Cogenhoe v Spalding; Desborough v Newport Pagnell; Holbeach v Kempston; Northampton Spencer v Long Buckby; Potton v Boston; Stamford v Raunds, Wellingborough v Mirrlees Blackstone; Wootton v Eynesbury.

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Chester-le-Street v Bedlington Terriers; Consett v Prudhoe. Ferryhill v Shildon; Hebburn v Eppleton CW; Peterlee v Seaham Red Star: RTM Newcastle v Dunston FB: Tow Law v Murton.

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Bacup v Newcastle Town; Bootle v Darwen. Bradford Park Avenue v Skelmersdale: Burscough v St Helens; Clitheroe v Penrith; Glossop North End v Salford: Holker Old *Boys v Nantwich; Maine Road (Man)* v Trafford; Rossendale v Blackpool Rovers.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Arnold v Liversedge; Ashfield v North Ferriby; Brigg v Belper Town; Denaby v Sheffield, Hallam v Thackley; Lincoln United v Armthorpe Welfare; Ossett Town v Glasshoughton Welfare, Pickering v Hucknall; Pontefract Colliery v Maltby MW.

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Aldenhamians v Malvernians; Carthusians v Etonians. First division: Ardinians v Cholmeleians; Bradfieldians v Witleians: *Haileyburians v Salopians.*

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Arsenal v Millwall; Charlton v Ipswich, Fulham v Chelsea; Gillingham v Portsmouth; Leyton Orient v Cambridge Utd; Norwich v Watford; QPR v Southend. Tottenham v West Ham. Second division: Brentford v Bristol City; Bristol Rovers v Tottenham; Colchester v Bournemouth; Oxford Utd v Crystal Palace; Reading v Brighton; Southampton v Wycombe; Wimbledon v Swindon.

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: First division: Old Esthameians v Old Actonians; East Barnet OG v Civil Service; West Wickham v Old Latymerians, Winchmore *Hill v South Bank Poly. Second division:* Old Bromleians v Old Stationers: Old Parkonians v Old Westminster CTZ., Kew Association v Polytechnic, Broomfield v Lloyds Bank; Carshalton v Alexandra Park. Third division: Merton v Reigate Priory; Bank of England v Old Lyonians, Ibis v Alleyn OB. Old Salesians v Southgate Olympic.

SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: Senior One: Old Owens v Nottsborough, Parkfield *v Wizen: Southgate County v Mill Hill Village,* Wandsworth Boro v Old Grammarians. Senior Two: Corinthian Casuals v Ealing Association, Duncombe Sports v Honourable Artillery Co: Hadley v Old Bealonians: Hale End v Ucl Academicals; Old Fentonians v Old Finchleians Senior Three: BBC v London Welsh; Fulham Compton Ob v Westerns; Old Colleians v Brent; Old Monovians v Old Woodhouseians; Polygons v City Of *London.*

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division: Old Tenisonians v Old Aloysians; Chertsey v Old Danes. Old Ignatians v Old Wilsonians.

BASS IRISH CUP: Fifth round: Ards v Chimney Corner, Ballyclare v Glenavon; Banbridge v Dunmurry Rec (2.15); Brantwood v Moyola Park (2.15): Carrick v Ballinamallard Crewe Utd v Cliftonville, Distillery v Bangor; Dundela v Crumlin Utd (2.15): Dungannon Swifts v Cookstown; Glentoran v Coleraine. Limavady v Dungiven (2.15); Linfield v Crusaders; Loughall Utd v Kilmore Rec, Newry v Larne: Omagh v Ballymena; Portadown v Donegal Celtic

RUGBY LEAGUE

Silk Cut Challenge Cup
Third round
Bramley v Woolston (3 0).

NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Premier division: Egremont v Leigh MW (2.30): Hemel Hempstead v Mayfield (2.30).

BNFL NATIONAL CUP: Second round: *Featherstone MW v Accrington*

HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Cannock v Indian Gymkhana (Morris Ground, *1.0*); Teddington v *Canterbury* (Teddington School, 1.0), Reading v Southgate (Sonning Lane, 2 0)

NASTRO AZZURRO LEAGUE: Premier League: Anchorians v Dulwich, Chichester *v Old Walcountians; Gore Court v Fareham:* High Wycombe v Lyons; Old Kingstonians v Oxford Hawks, Old Whitgiftians v City Of Portsmouth. Spencer v Maidenhead; Staines v Winchester; Wimbledon v Lewes; Woking v Ashford. *Hampshire/Surrey:* Basingstoke v Merton; Epsom v Camberley; Fleet v Oxted, Hamble OB v Petersfield; Old Mid-Whitgiftians v Cheam; Oxshott v Lensbury, Pirelli v Barnes; Purley v Old Edwardians. Southampton Teutonians v London University; Weybridge Hawks v Bournemouth. Kent/Sussex: Belvedere v Mid Sussex. Bexleyheath v Bognor; Blackheath v Tunbridge Wells; Brighton v Beckenham; Crawley v Greenwich; Gravesend v Tulse Hill, Herne Bay v Sevenoaks; Marden Russets v Old Holcombeians; Middleton v Old Williamsonians; Old Bordenians v Horsham. Middx/Berks/Bucks and Oxon: Eastcote v Bracknell, Gerrards Cross v *Headington;* Hayes v Aylesbury. HCC v Wokingham; Hendon v Amersham, Marlow v City of Oxford; Mill Hill v Sunbury, Milton Keynes v Richings Park, Newbury v Ramgarhia, PHC Chiswick v Old *Merchant Taylors'.*

NORWICH UNION EAST LEAGUE: Premier *division A:* Bishop's Stortford v Luton; Bluecharts v Redbridge and Ilford; Chelmsford v Cambridge University, Ipswich v Colchester: *Peterborough v Dereham.* Premier division B. Bedford v Sudbury. Norwich City v Ipswich and East Suffolk; Old Southendians v Romford; Pelicans v Westcliff, Stevenage v Bury St Edmunds.

SUN LIFE LEAGUE: Exeter University v Cheltenham, Swansea v Plymouth; Taunton Vale v Bath Buccaneers. West Glos v Hereford, West Wilts v Weston-super-Mare.

DTZ DEBENHAM THORPE LEAGUE: *Premier division: Bloxwich v Belper; Khalsa* v Hampton In Arden; North Notts v Harborne; Nottingham v Leicester Westleigh; Olton and West Warwickshire v Lichfield

NORTHERN *LEAGUE:* First division: Blackburn v Harrogate; Hightown-Northern v Ben Rhydding; Norton v Formby; Stockton v Warrington, Timperley v Southport.

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 2.30 unless stated

Five nations' championship
France v Wales (2.0)
Ireland v England (2.45)

Canada Life International
Scotland v Canada (2.30)

A international
France A v Wales A
(at Jean Bouin Std, Paris, 11.0)

Representative match
Scottish Schools v N Zealand Schools
(at Murrayfield, 12.30)

CIS county championship
Quarter-final
Gloucs v Surrey (at Bristol)

CLUB MATCHES: Aspatria v Durham City; Barkers Butts v Coventry (12.0), Bective Rangers v Northampton; Clifton v Plymouth; Leeds v Hull Ionians; London Scottish v Bedford (12.0); Morley v Broughton Park (3.0); Nuneaton v Moseley (12.0); Preston G v Liverpool St Helens (2.15), Reading v Newbury (2.15); Redruth v Bridgwater and Albion; Rosslyn Park v London Welsh (11.30): Sale v Waterloo (12.30); Saracens v *Richmond (12.0); Sheffield v Cambridge* Univ. Tynedale v Newcastle G: Wakefield v Gala; Winnington Park v Vale of Lune.

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Basingstoke v Fife (6.0), Humberside v Bracknell (5.45); Milton Keynes v Whitley Bay (6.30); Nottingham v Durham (6.30): Peterborough v Edinburgh (6.30): Sheffield v Cardiff (7.0). First division: Chelmsford v Trafford (6.0); Dumfries v Medway (5.15): Slough v Solihull (5.45); Swindon v Guildford (5.15).

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Derby v Doncaster (8.0), Hemel Hempstead v Sheffield (7.30): Manchester v London (7.30); Worthing v Thames Valley (8.0).
NATIONAL CUP: Quarter-final: Leicester v Birmingham (7.30).

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: Manchester Unity Liberty Trophy: Quarter-finals: Norfolk v Cambridgeshire (Clacton, 10.0); Northamptonshire v Cumbria (New Earswick, York, 12.0), Devon v Wiltshire (Bristol, 10.0), Buckinghamshire v Kent (Victory, Portsmouth, 12.0).
BOXING: Glasgow: World Boxing Council international super-bantamweight championship: Naseem Hamed (GB, holder) v Armando Castro (Mex): British cruiserweight championship (vacant) Dennis Andries (Hackney) v Denzil Browne (Leeds)
SWIMMING: British grand prix (Gloucester)

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL

FA Carling Premiership
Man United v Blackburn R (4.0)

Endsleigh Insurance League
First division
Derby v Portsmouth (2.55)
Tranmere v Oldham (3 05)

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Southern division: Poole v Bury Town.
BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Athlone Town v Sligo Rovers (6.30). Derry City v Shelbourne (3.15): Monaghan United v Galway United (2.30) Cup: Final, second leg: Dundalk v Cork City (2.15)
FA WOMEN'S CUP: Fifth round: Wigan v St Helens Garswood (Ashton Town, 1.30) Fifth round replay: Doncaster Belles v Wembley (Bellevue, 1.30)

RUGBY UNION

CIS Insurance under-21 divisional championship
South West v North
(at Maidenhead, 2.15)
London and South-East v Midlands
(at Rosslyn Park, 2 30)

RUGBY LEAGUE

Silk Cut Challenge Cup
Third round
Barrow v East Leeds (2.30)
Batley v Shaw Cross (3.15)
Carlisle v Dudley Hill (2.0)
Dewsbury v Kells (3.0)
Highfield v Beverley (3.0)
Huddersfield v Wigan St Judes (3.30)
Hull KR v Thornhill (3.15)
Hunslet v Wigan St Patricks (3.0)
Keighley v Chorley (3.15)
Leigh v Haworth (3.0)
London Broncos v Ellenborough (3 0)
Rochdale v Lock Lane (3.0)
Ryedale York v Barrow Island (3.15)
Swinton v Millom (3.0)
Whitehaven v Moorends (2.0)

Stones Bitter Championship
Featherstone v Doncaster (3.30)
Halifax v Castleford (3.0)
Leeds v Warrington (3 0)
Oldham v Sheffield (3.0)
St Helens v Hull (3.0)
Widnes v Wakefield (3.0)
Workington v Salford (3 0)

HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Cannock v Bournville (Morris Ground, 2.30); Canterbury v Reading (Polo Farm, 1.0): East Grinstead v Trojans (Saint Hill, 2.0): Havant v Southgate (Havant College, 2.15): Hounslow v Firebrands (Chiswick Boathouse, 2.0); Hull v Slough (Orchard Park, 2.0): Old Loughtonians v Guildford (Chigwell, 1.30). Stourport v Indian Gymkhana (King Charles School, Kidderminster, 2.0). Surbiton v Teddington (Sugden Road, 2.30). Second division: Brooklands v Bromley (The Pavilion, Sale, 1.45). Cambridge City v Hampstead and Westminster (Coldhams Common, 2.0). Edgbaston v Isca (Birmingham University, 12.30). Gloucester City v Doncaster (Plock Court, 1.30): Oxford University v Neston (St Edwards School, Oxford, 2.0); Richmond v Harleston Magpies (Teddington School, 2.0). Sheffield v *Beeston (Abbeydale Park, 12.30),* St Albans v Crostyx (Clarence Park, 2.0), Whitchurch v Barford Tigers (Llys Tal y Bont, Cardiff, 1.30).

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Bracknell v Basingstoke (5.15): Cardiff v Milton Keynes (6.30). Durham v Peterborough (6.30). Humberside v Sheffield (5.45): Nottingham v Fife (6.30); Whitley Bay *v Edinburgh (6.30). First division: Blackburn* v Trafford (6.0); Guildford v Telford (5.15); Lee Valley v Dumfries (7.0), Paisley v Medway (6.30). Solihull v Swindon (7 0).

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Doncaster v Chester (5 30); Sheffield v Leopards (6.15).

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O'Brien honoured as Cheltenham names County Hurdle after him

Monsieur Le Cure to pass acid test

By Richard Evans, Racing Correspondent

THE *announcement* yesterday by Cheltenham racecourse that Vincent O'Brien, the legendary Irish trainer, is *to be honoured at this year's* National Hunt Festival by having the County Handicap Hurdle run in his name could *not be more timely.*

O'Brien, one of only three trainers to have won the Gold Cup and Champion Hurdle in the same year, will be aware more than most that the outcome of key races on both *sides of the Irish Sea this* weekend could play a significant part in determining the likely winners of Cheltenham's two most coveted prizes — which he won with Hatton's Grace and Cottage Rake in 1949 and 1950.

At Haydock today, Monsieur Le Cure, the outstanding novice chaser of last year, *faces the acid test when he* takes on Jodami, the 1993 Gold Cup winner, and the fast-improving Raymylette in *the Peter Marsh Chase.* Half-an-hour earlier, Relkeel faces the sternest examination of his career when he attempts to *give weight away to Flakey* Dove, last season's Smurfit Champion Hurdle winner, in the Haydock Park Champion Hurdle Trial.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: GIVUS A CALL
(1.15 Kempton Park)
Next best: Monsieur Le Cure
(2.00 Haydock Park)

The nine Irish-trained winners at the last two Festivals — compared to only eight in the *previous six years* — underlines their revival in fortunes and Fortune And Fame heads a formidable cast of Festival hopefuls due to run at Leopardstown tomorrow, weather permitting.

Dermot Weld's talented but *injury-prone* eight-year-old makes his long-awaited seasonal debut in the AIG (Europe) Irish Champion Hurdle, *where his seven rivals* include Montelado, who has not raced since winning the Supreme Novices' Hurdle at Cheltenham two years ago, and the mud-loving Aries Girl, unbeaten this term.

With a bit more luck on his side, Jodami would enter this afternoon's Peter Marsh Chase unbeaten this season. *Travelling like a winner in the* Tommy Whittle Chase early last month, he made a rare jumping error four fences out and unseated his rider, and then slipped on landing three fences from home in the Rowland Meyrick *Chase four* weeks ago when victory looked assured.

Peter Beaumont, his trainer, *said yesterday:* "He had a good racecourse school last Sunday and jumped beautifully at a racing pace for Mark Dwyer. He quickened in to his fences and never put a foot out of place. If we can get a good *round in tomorrow I will be* pleased. He just needs his share of luck."

Lucky or not, the ten-year-*old is giving more than a stone* in weight to his four rivals and he will have to record a career-best performance if he is to *win. With the front-running* Raymylette ensuring a sound pace, Monsieur Le Cure looks a worthy favourite.

*John Edwards has gradual*ly brought his Sun Alliance and Mumm Mildmay Chase winner to a peak, in similar fashion to last season. Ironically, it was exactly a year ago that Monsieur Le Cure hinted at the potential to come when winning his first chase at Kempton.

"He does take an awful lot of work to get fit and the older he gets the more work he seems to need. He's a big, heavy-topped horse and early in the season you have to be careful not to overdo it," the Ross-on-Wye trainer explained. "He had worked five *or six times before his first run* this season in Ireland but, unfortunately, the ground there was like a gluepot and *they went a hell of a gallop* which meant he blew up five fences from home. He then ran very well in the Tripleprint Gold Cup over an inadequate trip, making up a lot of ground from the last ditch."

The steady improvement was confirmed when Monsieur Le Cure finished second behind Algan in the King *George VI Chase at Kempton* on Boxing Day. "Norman Williamson said afterwards he would not be worried about Barton Bank next time as Monsieur Le Cure blew up after the last down the back before getting a second wind *and running on to be second.*" Edwards added.

"The Haydock race is the acid test. He's getting lumps of *weight off the top horse and I* hope all goes well." A sparkling piece of work on Wednesday and a very good blood test *confirmed the wellbeing of his* runner. The trainer's only concern is that some of his younger horses have been *coughing during the past ten* days.

However, with race and track conditions in his favour, *Monsieur Le Cure can follow* the example set by The Thinker in 1987 and Jodami in 1993 and win this on the way to *Cheltenham glory.*

MARTIN LYNCH

Monsieur Le Cure is fancied to strengthen his Gold Cup claims in the Peter Marsh Chase at Haydock

Peanuts Pet primed to make light of heavy ground

HAYDOCK PARK

BBC1

1.00: The likely favourites look beatable — *Sweet Glow has never* won first time out or at Haydock and Her Honour is far from certain to stay the trip — but it is hard to find an alternative. *Mudahim* reverts to hurdles after showing nothing over fences this term. Olympian almost refused to race last time. Royal Athlete has not run for 420 days and is being prepared for a chasing campaign, while Tapis Rouge and Rositary are look hopelessly outclassed. **Sweet Glow**, *who likes soft* ground, stays and is partnered by Adrian Maguire, gets the vote.

1.30: The front-running Great Marquess should ensure a proper gallop. *Flakey Dove is officially rated 3lb* superior to Relkeel and yet is receiving 5lb from David Nicholson's horse. However, last season's *Champion Hurdle winner is yet to* win this year and has only just recovered from a minor setback so the mightily impressive **Relkeel** can *continue his unbeaten run.*

2.00: See above.

KEMPTON PARK

C4

1.45: Butler's Twitch has always been held in some regard at Oliver Sherwood's yard and he won cosily *on his chasing debut at Nottingham* despite jumping to his right on occasions. This track should suit but he faces a tough task taking on **High Baron**, who looks likely to do even better over fences than he did over *hurdles. Unbeaten in his two chas*ing starts, Robert Alner's eight-year-old looked above average when winning here over Christmas and *should follow up.*

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

2.15: **Peanuts Pet** has been gradually returning to form and after an eye-catching run behind Burnt Imp (winner since) at Wetherby last time looks ready to triumph. Now running off a handicap mark 4lb lower than when winning at Wetherby last season, he acts on heavy ground and *Jamie Osborne is a significant* booking. Nirvana Prince looks reasonably treated but is yet to make his mark in handicap company, and Ask The Governor *looks the danger.*

2.45: **Trying Again**, best on right-*handed courses and in the mud*, can oblige again. David Gandolfo's improving hurdler has won all three starts since being narrowly beaten at *level weights by Relkeel last season.* Keep Me In Mind, beaten by the selection on his last two outings, should finish closer this time, but the *biggest* threat is posed by the improving Redeemyourself.

3.15: Osborne can complete a quick treble on **Cache Fleur**, who looks to *have outstanding claims if repeating* his good second to Tartan Tyrant at Haydock a fortnight ago. That was over three miles, but Martin Pipe's *chaser is just as effective over* slightly shorter. Big Matt has not run since falling here a year ago. He had previously won well at Newbury *and is a big threat if fit enough.*

Richard Evans

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RACING NEXT WEEK

MONDAY: Southwell (AW, first race 1.45), Newton Abbot (1.30)
TUESDAY: *Lingfield Park (AW, 1.45)*, Leicester (1.30)
WEDNESDAY: Wolverhampton (AW, 2.00), Lingfield Park (1.20), Sedgefield (1.40)
THURSDAY: *Lingfield Park (AW, 1.40)*, Huntingdon (1.20), Wincanton (1.30)
FRIDAY: Southwell (AW, 1.50), Doncaster (1.00), Folkestone (1.10)
SATURDAY: Lingfield Park (AW, 1.40), *Ayr (BBC, 12.45)*, Cheltenham (C4, 1.10), Doncaster (C4, 1.00), *Uttoxeter (1.30)*
Flat meetings in bold

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9/4 Raymylette
9/2 Jodami
7 Chatam
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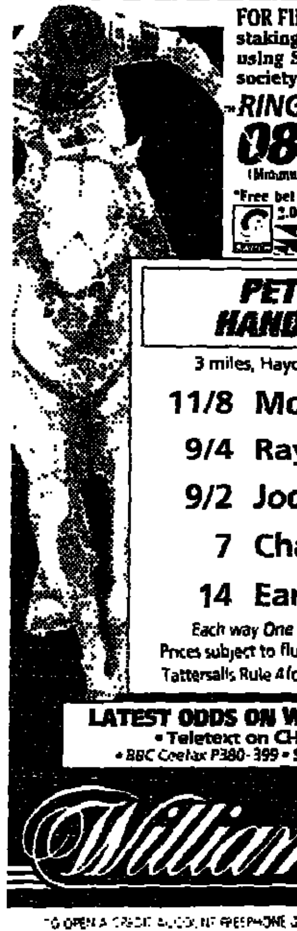

KEMPTON PARK

THUNDERER

1.15 Givus A Call
1.45 High Baron
2.15 Peanuts Pet
2.45 Trying Again
3.15 Cache Fleur
3.45 Charmer's Well
4.15 Hoh Delivery

GOING: HEAVY (7AM INSPECTION) SIS

1.15 MIDDLESEX NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,960: 2m 5f) (8 runners)

1	211	GIVUS A CALL 23 (S) (T Benfield & W Brown) J Gifford 5-11-7	E Murphy	91
2	00-4441	EVEN FLOW 31 (S) (A Wates) T Casey 5-11-4	J Osborne	81
3	0	CARDINAL GAYLE 81 (The Cross-Section Partnership) R Alner 5-11-0	G McCourt	–
4	000000-	CASTLE ORCHARD 260 (R Crone) P Hayward 11-11-0	S Righton (7)	72
5	6P	MARKET GOSSIP 8 (R Tory) R Alner 5-11-0	S Earle	–
6	26-3220	PRIME OF LIFE 26 (BF) (Mrs T Matthews) J Eustace 5-11-0	D Fortt (5)	[illegible]
7	10/PF	RUTLAND GATE 23 (G) (R Michaelson) Mrs J Renfree-Barons 5-11-0	R Greene	–
8	0P	TIMPANY DRUM 49 (The Big Partnership) J Akehurst 6-11-0	Peter Hobbs	–

BETTING: 5-4 Givus A Call, 5-2 Prime Of Life, 4-1 Even Flow, 7-1 Rutland Gate, 16-1 Market Gossip, 20-1 Cardinal Gayle, 25-1 Timpany Drum, 50-1 Castle Orchard.

1994: CORROUGE 5-11-7 D Bridgwater (5-6 fav) N Twiston-Davies 14 ran

1.45 BIC RAZOR NOVICES CHASE (£4,920: 2m) (3 runners) C4

1	3014-11	HIGH BARON 26 (C,F,G,S) (Miss C James) R Alner 8-11-11	G McCourt	[illegible]
2	01510-1	BUTLER'S TWITCH 21 (D,G,S) (C Heath) O Sherwood 8-11-7	J Osborne	80
3	20-1423	JULEIT JONES 37 (BF,S) (J Plackett) P Butler 6-10-12	B Powell	–

BETTING: 1-2 High Baron, 7-4 Butler's Twitch, 10-1 Juleit Jones.

1994: CURRENT EXPRESS 7-11-2 M A Fitzgerald (5-2) N Henderson 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

HIGH BARON beat Brief Gale 5l in 6-runner novice *chase here (2m 4f 110yd, soft).* Previously beat Rocky Park 13l in 9-runner novice chase at Exeter (2m 2f, soft).
BUTLER'S TWITCH beat Cheeky 11l in 4-runner novice chase at Nottingham (2m, good to soft). JULEIT JONES 4l 2nd of 14 to More Dash Thancash in novice hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, good) on penultimate start.
Selection: HIGH BARON

2.15 BIC LADY SHAVER HANDICAP HURDLE C4
(£3,470: 2m 5f) (7 runners)

1	16630-0	JEASSU 14 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs J Mills) A J Wilson 12-12-0	D Leahy (3)	91
2	105-004	PEANUTS PET 25 (F,G,S) (The Ivy Syndicate) T Tate 10-11-5	J Osborne	[illegible]
3	2F0P-31	MIZYAN 8F (G) (J Bianchi) J Banks 7-11-3	S Keightley	94
4	21-343F	NIRVANA PRINCE 7 (D,F,S) (C Pomfret) B Preece 6-10-12	T Wall	96
5	2-42235	HIGH GRADE 35 (G,S) (Uncle Oscars Racing) Miss S Wilton 7-10-2	B Powell	93
6	430-030	SPIRIT IN THE NITE 43 (G) (Mrs T Pennington) J Gifford 6-10-0	P Hide	96
7	420261	ASK THE GOVERNOR 23 (F,G,S) (Mrs S Balding) G Balding 9-10-0	A P McCoy (3)	95

Long handicap: Ask The Governor 9-11.

BETTING: 3-1 Peanuts Pet, 4-1 Mizyan, Nirvana Prince, 9-2 Jeassu, 5-1 Ask The Governor, 8-1 High Grade, Spirit In The Nite.

1994: MEDITATOR 10-10-5 S Curran (7-2) Miss J Doyle 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

JEASSU 49l 8th of 24 to Miracle Man in handicap hurdle at Warwick (2m 4f 110yd, soft). PEANUTS PET about 7l 4th of 8 to Burnt Imp in handicap hurdle at Wetherby (2m 4f 110yd, soft). MIZYAN *beat Straight Laced 2½l in 10-runner handicap* hurdle at Fakenham (2m 4f, good). NIRVANA PRINCE 7l *3rd of 10 to Second Call in handicap* hurdle at Chepstow (2m 4f 110yd, soft) on penultimate start. HIGH GRADE *best effort this term 1½l* 2nd of 7 to Master Boston in handicap hurdle at Warwick (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft). SPIRIT IN THE NITE neck and 1½l 3rd of 5 to Nick The Beak in handicap hurdle at Towcester (2m, good to soft) on penultimate start. ASK THE GOVERNOR beat Channel Pastime 2l in 7-runner novice handicap chase at Taunton (2m 3f, soft). Best recent hurdling effort 15½l 4th of 5 to Elegant King in conditional jockeys handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m 6f, soft) with SPIRIT IN THE NITE (7lb better off) 56½l 7th.
Selection: MIZYAN

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wnrs	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
N Henderson	20	73	27.4	E Murphy	5	18	27.8
M Pipe	16	70	22.9	Peter Hobbs	8	42	19.0
O Sherwood	11	55	20.0	J Osborne	24	129	18.9
J Gifford	14	113	12.4	J R Kavanagh	4	22	18.2
				G McCourt	11	63	17.5
Only qualifiers				M Richards	6	47	12.8

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Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

2.45 BIC RAZOR LANZAROTE HANDICAP HURDLE C4
(£16,930: 2m) (4 runners)

1	4/321-11	TRYING AGAIN 19 (CD,S) (W Dare) D Gandolfo 7-11-10	J Osborne	98
2	1212-11	REDEEMYOURSELF 10 (S) (Mrs T Brown) J Gifford 6-11-1	P Hide	98
3	0-02032	KEEP ME IN MIND 19 (D,S) (P Tory) N Mitchell 5-10-9	D Skyrme	[illegible]
4	54-14R5	DARING PAST 42 (D,G,S) (J Perry) M Hammond 5-10-9	G McCourt	95

BETTING: Evens Trying Again, 3-1 Redeemyourself, 7-2 Keep Me In Mind, 5-1 Daring Past.

1994: NIJMEGEN 6-10-6 J Osborne (5-1) Jimmy Fitzgerald 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

TRYING AGAIN beat KEEP ME IN MIND (10lb better off) 12l in 7-runner handicap hurdle at Exeter (2m 2f, heavy). Previously beat Kadastrof 12l in handicap hurdle over course and distance (soft) with KEEP ME IN MIND (15lb better off) 2l 3rd. REDEEMYOURSELF beat Challenger Row 9l in 6-runner handicap hurdle at Plumpton (2m 1f, soft). Previously beat Nordansk 2l in handicap hurdle at Fontwell (2m 2f, soft). DARING PAST best effort this term 23½l 4th of 10 to Atours in handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 110yd, good to soft).
Selection: TRYING AGAIN

3.15 FULWELL HANDICAP CHASE C4
(£7,059: 2m 4f 110yd) (7 runners)

1	3122U2	CACHE FLEUR 14 (CD,F,G,S) (B Kilpatrick) M Pipe 9-11-10	J Osborne	92
2	PP-313F	REPEAT THE DOSE 15 (D,F,G,S) (A Wates) T Casey 10-11-9	G McCourt	[illegible]
3	424222	BIBENDUM 25 (CD,F,G,S) (R Waley-Cohen) R Waley-Cohen 9-11-6	Peter Hobbs	90
4	U1F-466	YELLOW SPRING 5 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs R Howell) D Gandolfo 10-11-3	J Railton	94
5	2/42-4P0	CALAPAEZ 7 (CD,F,G,S) (T Blake) Miss B Sanders 11-11-1	M Richards	97
6	02131F-	BIG MATT 365 (G,S) (R Shaw) N Henderson 7-10-10	J R Kavanagh	90
7	53-U315	SCOLE 60 (D,G,S) (C Hubbard) G Hubbard 10-10-3	A P McCoy (3)	96

BETTING: 3-4 Cache Fleur, 3-1 Big Matt, 7-2 Bibendum, 8-1 Yellow Spring, 9-1 Repeat The Dose, 12-1 Calapaez, Scole.

1994: UNCLE ERU 11-10-5 S Earle (10-1) R Alner 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

CACHE FLEUR 3½l 2nd of 5 to Tartan Tyrant in *handicap chase at Haydock (3m, soft).* REPEAT THE DOSE best effort this term beat Star Of Italy 9l *in 5-runner handicap chase at Towcester* (2m 110yd, soft). BIBENDUM 10l 2nd of 6 to Amtrak Express in handicap chase at Uttoxeter (2m 5f, good) on penultimate start.
YELLOW SPRING *20½l 6th of 11 to Over The* Stream in handicap chase at Windsor (3m, good) on penultimate start. CALAPAEZ best effort this *term 15l 4th of 9 to Docklands Express in handicap* chase at Ascot (3m 110yd, good to firm). BIG *MATT beat Front Street 1½l in 6-runner novice* chase at Newbury (2m 1f, heavy) on penultimate start. SCOLE beat *Andermatt 25l in 3-runner handi*cap chase at Warwick (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft) on *penultimate start.*
Selection: CACHE FLEUR

3.45 SUNBURY NOVICES CHASE (£3,522: 3m) (4 runners)

1	1-4F3	*CHARMER'S WELL 14 (S) (M Kerr-Dineen, M Dalman) G Balding 7-11-5*	J Railton	–
2	34-1523	CORLY SPECIAL 74 (F,G,S) (P Bratley) F Burke 8-11-5	G McCourt	75
3	66/033-	*MEDIANE 364 (G,S) (Windsor City All Stars C C) M Bradstock 10-11-5*	P Holley	[illegible]
4	062-F63	SIMON JOSEPH 37 (Mrs G McFerran) T George 8-11-5	B Powell	71

BETTING: 5-4 Charmer's Well, 2-1 Mediane, 3-1 Corly Special, 8-1 Simon Joseph.

1994: MONSIEUR LE CURE 8-10-10 N Williamson (11-8 fav) J Edwards 11 ran

4.15 FOXHILLS OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE
(£1,497: 2m) (14 runners)

1	1	WISLEY WONDER 52 (G) (Wisley Golf) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-12	Mr M Rimell (7)	–
2	3	AKULITE 23 (S Clough) J King 5-11-5	G McCourt	–
3		AUTUMN SUNSHINE (D Knox) C Weedon 5-11-5	Peter Hobbs	–
4		HANGING GROVE (J Forbes) P Murphy 5-11-5	N Mann	–
5		HI HEDLEY (G Hubbard) G Hubbard 5-11-5	J R Kavanagh	–
6		HOH DELIVERY (D Allport) Mrs J Renfree-Barons 6-11-5	R Greene	–
7		HOWARD THE DUCK (Victor Chandler Ltd) Miss B Sanders 5-11-5	M Richards	–
8		LUGS BRANNIGAN (J Dowler) M Bradstock 6-11-5	P Holley	–
9		PILGRIM'S MISSION (J Kinnear) G Balding 5-11-5	A P McCoy (3)	–
10		RAIN WARRIOR (Miss A Whitfield) Miss A Whitfield 5-11-5	D Fortt (5)	–
11		ANOTHER DEBT (Mrs P Jubert) B Meehan 6-11-0	B Powell	–
12	60-	BELMORE CLOUD 345 (Mrs A Hartnell) M Pipe 6-11-0	M Foster	–
13		MRS BARTY (M Peters) C Weedon 5-11-0	R Burns (7)	–
14		SWEET ALLEGIANCE (R Ledger) R Ledger 5-11-0	Mrs N Ledger	–

BETTING: 5-2 *Wisley Wonder*, 5-1 *Akulite*, 6-1 *Pilgrim's Mission*, 7-1 *Hoh Delivery*, 8-1 *others.*

1994: DOMINE 6-11-5 N Williamson (16-1) J Edwards 22 ran

HAYDOCK PARK

THUNDERER

1.00 Sweet Glow
1.30 Relkeel
2.00 Monsieur Le Cure
2.30 SCOTTON BANKS (nap)
3.00 George Dillingham
3.30 Spree Cross
4.00 Absolutly Equiname

GOING: SOFT SIS

1.00 PREMIER LONG DISTANCE HURDLE BBC1
(Grade II: £9,500: 2m 7f 110yd) (7 runners)

101	0/05612-	SWEET GLOW 178F (D,F,G,S) (Mrs M Fairbrother) M Pipe 8-11-10	A Maguire	[illegible]
102	F03-5P6	MUDAHIM 35 (F,G,S) (K Bell) C Broad 9-11-3	N Williamson	–
103	002-345	OLYMPIAN 11 (B,F,G) (M & N Plant Ltd) R Simpson 8-11-3	D Gallagher	82
104	3F0/51F-	ROYAL ATHLETE 420 (F,G,S) (G & L Johnson) Mrs J Pitman 12-11-3	W Marston	–
105	040	TAPIS ROUGE 3F (M Pipe) T Caldwell 6-11-3	Pat Caldwell	50
106	55-1034	HER HONOUR 28 (C,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs A Farrant) M Pipe 6-10-12	J Lower	86
107	2P-541F	ROSITARY 12 (B,F,S) (P Wadsworth) P Winkworth 12-10-12	C Maude	–

BETTING: 6-4 Sweet Glow, 2-1 Her Honour, 4-1 Olympian, 10-1 Mudahim, 12-1 Royal Athlete, 33-1 Tapis Rouge, Rositary

1994: SIMPSON 9-11-3 T Grantham (14-1) J Old 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

SWEET GLOW 1l 2nd of 4 to Avro Anson in conditions hurdle over course and distance (good to firm). MUDAHIM tailed off last of 5 to River Mandate in handicap chase at Uttoxeter (2m 7f, soft). ROYAL ATHLETE beat What's The Crack 3l in 8-runner handicap chase at Cheltenham (3m 3f 110yd, soft) on penultimate start, November 1993. TAPIS ROUGE 19l 4th of 7 to On Air in novice hurdle here (2m, soft) on penultimate start. HER HONOUR 35½l 4th of 5 to Island Jewel in handicap hurdle at Kempton (3m 110yd, soft). Previously 4½l 3rd of 7 to Relkeel in grade III William Hill Handicap Hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good to soft) with OLYMPIAN (5lb worse off) short-head 4th. ROSITARY beat Windy Ways 30l in 3-runner handicap chase at Folkestone (3m 2f, soft) on penultimate start.
Selection: SWEET GLOW

1.30 HAYDOCK PARK CHAMPION HURDLE TRIAL BBC1
(Grade II: £9,260: 2m) (4 runners)

201	21-1111	RELKEEL 35 (D,G,S) (Brig C Harvey) D Nicholson 6-11-10	A Maguire	90
202	115-325	FLAKEY DOVE 25 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (J Price) R Price 9-11-5	M Dwyer	[illegible]
203	141	GREAT MARQUESS 11 (D,S) N Twiston-Davies 8-11-3	T Jenks	67
204	/0P/P	SAYPAREE 24 (D,F,G,S) (E Scarth) W Reed 10-11-3	L Wyer	–

BETTING: 4-7 Relkeel, 7-4 Flakey Dove, 7-1 Great Marquess, 150-1 Sayparee.

1994: FLAKEY DOVE 8-11-5 R Dunwoody (9-2) R Price 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

RELKEEL completed double, beat Holy Wanderer 15l in 4-runner conditions hurdle at Ascot (2m 110yd, good). Previously beat Kadastrof 3½l in 7-runner grade III William Hill Handicap Hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good to soft). *FLAKEY DOVE* about 3½l 5th of 6 to Absalom's Lady in grade I *Christmas Hurdle at Kempton (2m, soft).* GREAT MARQUESS beat Virkon Venture 4l in 11-runner *novice hurdle at Leicester (2m, soft).* SAYPAREE pulled up 3 out behind Plumbob in 8-runner handicap *hurdle at Newcastle (2m 4f, good).*
Selection: RELKEEL (nap)

2.00 PETER MARSH CHASE BBC1
(Limited handicap: grade II: £15,625: 3m) (5 runners)

301	3312-U2	JODAMI 26 (CD,F,G,S) (J Yeardon) P Beaumont 10-11-10	*M Dwyer*	91
302	111-342	MONSIEUR LE CURE 26 (D,G,S) (H Brown) J Edwards 9-10-8	N Williamson	98
303	240-51F	CHATAM 21 (CD,F,G,S) (A Nolan) M Pipe 11-10-7	A Maguire	[illegible]
304	2/111-11	RAYMYLETTE 35 (D,G,S) (Lady Lloyd Webber) N Henderson 8-10-7	M A Fitzgerald	97
305	01-51F2	EARTH SUMMIT 21 (B,CD,G,S) (Summit Pnrs) N Twiston-Davies 7-10-7	T Jenks (3)	92

Long handicap: Chatam 10-6, Raymylette 10-6, Earth Summit 9-10.

BETTING: 11-8 Monsieur Le Cure, 11-4 Raymylette, 4-1 Jodami, 6-1 Chatam, 14-1 Earth Summit.

1994: ZETA'S LAD 11-10-10 R Supple (5-1) J Upson 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

JODAMI distance 2nd of 3 to Cogent in handicap chase at Wetherby (3m 110yd, good). Best effort last term 1½l 2nd of 15 to The Fellow in grade I Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup at Cheltenham (3m 2f 110yd, good). MONSIEUR LE CURE 2½l 2nd of 9 to Algan in grade I King George VI Chase at Kempton (3m, soft).
CHATAM beat Black Humour distance in 3-runner conditions chase at Haydock (3m, soft) on penultimate start. RAYMYLETTE completed double, beat Dubacilla 1¼l in 8-runner handicap chase at Ascot (3m 110yd, good). Previously beat Couldn't Be Better 1l in 11-runner grade II First National Limited Handicap Chase at Ascot (2m 3f 110yd, good). EARTH SUMMIT 20l 2nd of 8 to Master Oats in grade III Coral Welsh National Handicap Chase at Newbury (3m 6f, heavy).
Selection: MONSIEUR LE CURE

2.30 STEEL PLATE AND SECTIONS YOUNG CHASERS QUALIFIER
(Novices: £4,026: 2m 4f) (7 runners)

401	1P5-111	SCOTTON BANKS 35 (D,G,S) (I Bray) M H Easterby 6-11-12	L Wyer	92
402	141513	SWEET DUKE 26 (D,G,S) (A Mavrou) N Twiston-Davies 8-11-12	T Jenks	[illegible]
403	130-212	THE FROG PRINCE 42 (D,F,S) (R Cooper) N Gaselee 7-11-12	M A Fitzgerald	87
404	015500	GOLDEN NUGGET 11 (S) (W Carroll) E Alston 8-11-4	A Procter	–
405	22-	JUDGED LUCKY 427 (J McConnochie) J McConnochie 8-11-4	R Bellamy	89
406	F/84P45	OLD REDWOOD 39 (Halewood Vintners Ltd) D McCain 8-11-4	D McCain	56
407	0P4-600	DANCE OF WORDS 5 (F,G,S) J Johnson 6-10-13	N Williamson	–

BETTING: 5-4 Scotton Banks, 3-4 Sweet Duke, 3-1 The Frog Prince, 20-1 Judged Lucky, 25-1 Dance Of Words, 66-1 Old Redwood, Golden Nugget.

1994: YOUR WELL 8-11-3 B Clifford (11-4) J White 6 ran

3.00 NORTH WEST RACING CLUB NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,472: 2m 4f) (12 runners)

501	0060-11	SHINING LIGHT 50 (G,S) (The Deeley Partnership) D Nicholson 6-12-2	A Maguire	83
502	554212	CHALLENGER DU LUC 14 (B,D,BF,S) M Pipe 5-11-11	M A Fitzgerald	[illegible]
503	4-1P3	NAHTHEN LAD 72 (BF,G) (J Shaw) Mrs J Pitman 6-11-11	W Marston	91
504	2	GEORGE DILLINGHAM 43 (BF) (J Blair) Denys Smith 5-11-6	N Williamson	89
505	085-46	HOLY STING 36 (G MacEchern) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-6	T Jenks (3)	77
506	0606	PARSONS BOY 14 (B Ridge) G Richards 6-11-6	M Moloney	–
507	3	ROSMARINO 14 (R Howell) W Jenks 5-11-6	L Wyer	82
508	04	WINTERS COTTAGE 14 (V) (Mrs S Barber) P Evans 7-11-6	G Bradley	–
509	0/44-5F	GRAY ROSETTE 32 (Dr G Thelwall Jones) A Bailey 6-11-1	T Kent	69
510	33/0	SHEAN DEAS 59 (F,G,S) M Hammond 8-11-1	M Dwyer	–
511	0	NUVEEN 24 (B) (R Graham) Mrs J Jordan 4-10-7	D Morris	–
512	65	REGAL RAMBLER 14F (D Brereton) L Barratt 4-10-7	D Gallagher	74

BETTING: 7-4 Shining Light, 7-2 Challenger Du Luc, 5-1 George Dillingham, 7-1 Nahthen Lad, 8-1 Rosmarino, 16-1 Holy Sting, 20-1 others.

1994: PONDERING 4-10-11 R Dunwoody (1-2 fav) M Pipe 5 ran

3.30 LADBROKE HANDICAP CHASE
(£6,710: 2m) (5 runners)

601	2-52P12	SPREE CROSS 14 (D,G,S) (P Mason) Mrs D Haine 9-11-10	G Bradley	98
602	110000	TIPPING TIM 7 (F,G,S) (Mrs J Mould) N Twiston-Davies 10-11-10	T Jenks (3)	95
603	1832-3P	THUMBS UP 63 (D,F,S) (M Buckley) N Henderson 9-11-8	M A Fitzgerald	94
604	P3-14U3	COUNTRY LAD 14 (D,G,S) (S Douch) Mrs S Williams 7-11-1	S McNeill	98
605	1-122U1	WHAT'S IN ORBIT 14 (D,F,G,S) (C A Paterson) P Nicholls 10-10-10	C Maude	[illegible]

BETTING: 2-1 Spree Cross, 5-2 Country Lad, 100-30 What's In Orbit, 11-2 Thumbs Up, 10-1 Tipping Tim.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

4.00 HAYDOCK OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE
(£1,434: 2m) (18 runners)

1	1	DENISE'S PROFILES 23 (S) (Exterior Profiles) N Twiston-Davies 5-12-3	T Jenks (3)	–
2		BLAKENEY LAD (Mrs J Cumiskey) S McMahon 5-11-10	J F Titley	–
3		KENTUCKY GOLD (Halewood Vintners Ltd) D McCain 6-11-10	D McCain (5)	–
4	0	LUKER BOY 23 (Luker Removals & Storage Ltd) D Nicholson 5-11-10	G Hogan (5)	–
5		MARINA'S LAD (A Evans) A James 6-11-10	W Marston	–
6		MONYMAN (T Hemmings) M Hammond 5-11-10	Mr C Bonner (5)	–
7	0	NIGHTS IMAGE 7 (T Caldwell) T Caldwell 5-11-10	Pat Caldwell	–
8	U	OLIVER'S SECRET 23 (C Fleet) M Pipe 5-11-10	J Lower	–
9	40	PEBBLE BEACH 57 (The Pebble Beach Partnership) G Moore 5-11-10	N Stocks (7)	–
10		READYSPEX (Crown Eyeglass Plc) R Woodhouse 5-11-10	O Pears	–
11		RYE CROSSING (C Stevens) M H Easterby 5-11-10	L Wyer	–
12	3	WILMAN 42 (J Wilman) M Hammond 5-11-10	N Williamson	–
13		KAREN'S LADY LUCK (F Sanders) M Hammond 5-11-5	Kate Sellars (7)	–
14	0-	WYE OATS 256 (Miss J Andrews) M Scudamore 5-11-5	R Bellamy	–
15		*ABSOLUTLY EQUINAME (Mrs K McLintock) D Eddy 4-10-12*	M A Fitzgerald	–
16		GO-INFORMAL (R Marshall) J Jefferson 4-10-12	M Dwyer	–
17		*SON OF A GUNNER (J Neville) R Simpson 4-10-12*	D Gallagher	–
18		LUCIA FORTE (Mrs L Farmer) P Dalton 4-10-7	A Maguire	–

BETTING: 5-2 Denise's Profiles, 3-1 Absolutly Equiname, 7-1 Luker Boy, 8-1 Oliver's Secret, 14-1 Son Of A Gunner, 16-1 Monyman, Rye Crossing, 20-1 others

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wnrs	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
N Gaselee	4	8	50.0	M A Fitzgerald	3	9	33.3
G Richards	38	125	30.4	G Bradley	10	39	25.6
M Pipe	33	115	28.7	A Maguire	9	44	20.5
D Nicholson	8	29	27.6	M Dwyer	21	118	17.8
N Twiston-Davies	7	30	23.3	L Wyer	8	57	14.0
M H Easterby	8	43	18.6	Only qualifiers			

Crank Shaft aims high

THERE are ambitious plans for Crank Shaft after the gelding comfortably secured his second chasing victory in the Stayers' *Novices' Chase at Catterick Bridge yesterday.* Crank Shaft, the 5-4 on favourite, was always travelling well for Derek Byrne and beat Snook Point by 12 lengths. John Quinn, who is in his first season as a trainer, is keen to run Crank Shaft in Reynoldstown Chase at Ascot on February 8, *and* is considering a tilt at Cheltenham's Sun Alliance Chase.

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Stich's aspirations blown away

FROM STUART JONES, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT, IN MELBOURNE

AS MELBOURNE'S notoriously changeable weather took a dramatic turn for the worse, the most remarkable match of the Australian Open so far was staged yesterday in synthetic conditions. On a centre court sealed against the rain and blustery wind, Michael Stich became the victim of an irresistible force.

The seventh seed and Wimbledon champion of 1991, he was considered one of the favourites before he entered the floodlit arena at 10.45 in the morning. Little more than an hour and a half later, he had been comprehensively dismissed by Karel Novacek, a comparative veteran from the Czech Republic, 7-5, 6-2, 6-4.

Novacek, 29, was ranked thirtieth in the world and was one of the more dangerous floaters in the field. His heart sank, however, as the temperature dropped to half Thursday's level and he realised that the third-round match would take place underneath a closed roof. As he put it: "Michael is very comfortable indoors."

Stich is not uncomfortable outdoors either. He beat Novacek in the semi-final of the US Open last year, one of four successive victories over an opponent renowned for erraticism, and he had not dropped a set in eliminating both Jeff Tarango and Alex O'Brien, both of the US.

Novacek appreciated that he had to risk taking a different approach; to dare to leave the baseline where he has traditionally operated most efficiently. Otherwise, he sensed that he was bound to suffer the same fate as he had at Flushing Meadow four months ago.

So, he chose to change his game and, against one of the sport's finest exponents of the serve and volley, he set out to beat the German at his own game. The tactic could not have worked better. "He played perfect tennis today," Stich later pronounced.

Novacek, who had never before defeated him on any surface other than on clay, did not drop a serve which was threatened only twice, in the fourth and sixth games of the opening set. Once those opportunities had passed, Stich appeared to be resigned to his own premature departure.

He never carries an overtly cheerful expression when he is at work. When the tide flows against him, his shoulders sag, his scowl deepens and his cries of anguish are accompanied by shrugs of despair. He might as well be a walking billboard with depression written upon it.

Any opponent would be lifted by such a sight. Novacek was inspired by it. He accelerated through the second set, seizing it in a mere 24 minutes, and continued to blaze improbable winners through the third. As is invariably the case in such circumstances, fortune favoured him, too. At 4-4, a net cord handed him the decisive break, his fourth of the match. "He always has two or three games when he makes a lot of unforced errors," Stich said. "But he didn't do anything wrong."

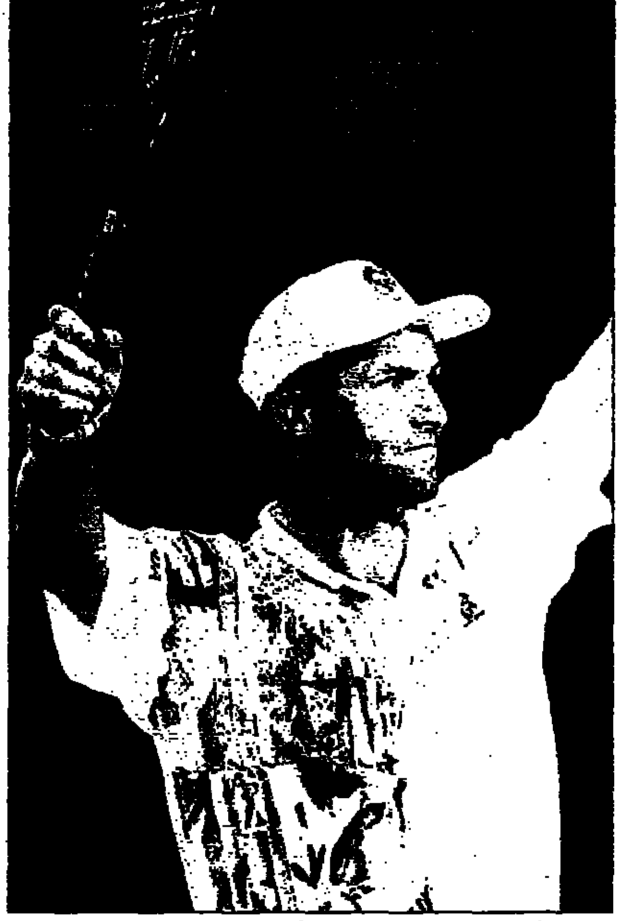
He was not so magnanimous about having to play effectively indoors. "It is a totally different game. Besides, I think everyone should wait. What happens if you have rain for two days [as is forecast] and you get only the Centre Court matches done. The other guys would then have to play three days in a row. It's not the way I think it should be."

His criticism is partially justified but would have sounded more convincing had he survived. Pete Sampras coped with the same unsettling process and with an additional handicap. Before his duel with Lars Jonsson, his coach, Tim Gullickson, was rushed to hospital with a suspected stroke.

Though naturally worried, Sampras maintained his concentration to reach the last 16 for the loss so far of only 15 games. Ominously, that is the most convincing progress that he, the holder of the title, has ever made in the formative stages of any grand slam event.

The only seed to fall among the women was Amy Frazier, the fourteenth, who was knocked out by Kyoko Nagatsuka. Conchita Martinez, the second, and Natasha Zvevera, the eighth, were both taken to a third set, but Mary Pierce, the fourth, suppressed the challenge of a novice from Madagascar.

Dally Radriantefy, 17, appearing in only her second senior event, put up a commendable effort before conceding to a potential finalist 6-3, 6-3.



Karel Novacek salutes the crowd after his straight sets victory in Australia. Photograph: William West

RESULTS FROM MELBOURNE

MEN'S SINGLES: Third round: K Novacek (Cz) bt M Stich (Ger) 7-5, 6-2, 6-4; M Chang (US) bt M Damm (Cz) 6-3, 7-5, 6-3; A Medvedev (Ukr) bt S Pescosolido (It) 6-4, 6-3, 6-3; O Delaitre (Fr) bt A Olhovskiy (Russ) 6-4, 6-4, 6-2; P Sampras (US) bt L Jonsson (Swe) 6-1, 6-2, 6-4; J Courier (US) bt M Woodforde (Aus) 6-3, 6-3, 6-3; M Larsson (Swe) wo T Enqvist (Swe).

MEN'S DOUBLES: Second round: M Ondruska and G Stafford (SA) bt H Holm (Swe) and S Lareau (Can) 6-3, 6-4; R Bergh (Swe) and B Talbot (SA) bt J Ireland (Aus) and L Pimek (Bel) 6-4, 7-5; T Kronemann (US) and D MacPherson (Aus) bt K Jones and D Pate (US) 7-6, 6-4; M Knowles (Bah) and D Nestor (Can) bt G Raoux (Fr) and G Rusedski (Can) 4-6, 6-3, 6-1; J Fitzgerald and P Rafter (Aus) bt M Goellner and D Prinosil (Ger) 6-3, 6-7, 6-3.

WOMEN'S SINGLES: Third round: C Martinez (Sp) bt K Boogert (Holl) 6-3, 2-6, 6-3; I Spirlea (Rom) bt Y Kamio (Japan) 2-6, 6-3, 6-3; L Davenport (US) bt S Testud (Fr) 6-3, 6-4; B Schultz (Holl) bt A Smashnova (Isr) 6-2, 6-2; N Zvereva (Belo) bt J Wiesner (Austria) 4-6, 7-6, 6-4; M Pierce (Fr) bt D Randriantefy (Mad) 6-3, 6-3; K Nagatsuka (Japan) bt A Frazier (US) 6-3, 6-3; A Huber (Ger) bt Y Basuki (Indo) 6-0, 6-1.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES: Second Round: D Graham and S Stafford (US) bt S Hack (Ger) and L Pleming (Aus) 6-0, 7-6; E Maniokova (Russ) and L Meskhi (Geo) bt R Grande (It) and J Kruger (SA) 6-2, 7-6; L Harvey-Wild and C Rubin (US) bt O Lugina (Ukr) and E Wagner (Ger) 6-2, 5-7, 6-0; P Fendick and M J Fernandez (US) bt M De Swardt and L Horn (SA) 6-1, 6-0; K Habsudova and R Zrubakova (Slovakia) bt M Babel (Ger) and P Hy (Can) 7-5, 6-3; W Probst (Ger) and D Scott (US) bt J Halard (Fr) and P Shriver (US) 6-3, 4-6, 6-2; J Novotna (Cz) and A Sanchez Vicario (Sp) bt K-A Guse (Aus) and A Simadova (Cz) 6-3, 7-5.

MIXED DOUBLES: First round: J Sanchez and L McNeil bt D Randall (US) and P Tarabini (Arg) 6-2, 7-6; F Montana and L Harvey-Wild (US) bt A Florent (Aus) and C Vis (Holl) 6-2, 6-2.

Four goals for Barker in victory over Hull

BY SYDNEY FRISKIN

NEIL BARKER scored four goals against Hull as Old Loughtonians began their challenge from pool B in the indoor club hockey championship at Crystal Palace yesterday with an 8-5 success.

Before Hull had settled down, Old Loughtonians had snatched a 2-0 lead through Thompson and Gladman and Barker ensured that there was no possibility that Hull could catch up.

Barford Tigers fought off a spirited revival by their familiar Midland rivals, Stourport, to win their group A match 9-7 after leading 4-2 at half-time. Three more Barford goals early in the second period, Chaudry converting two penalty strokes in the space of a minute, left Stourport with an almost impossible task.

Undismayed, they began to fight back and cut Barford's lead to 7-4 with goals by Walid Abdo and Parnham, from a penalty stroke, only for Chana, from another penalty award, to restore Barford's four-goal advantage.

□ The National League resumes today after its winter break with three first division matches to be followed by a full programme tomorrow in both divisions.

Teddington, at home today to Canterbury and away tomorrow at Surbiton, will, if they win both matches, take over the leadership of the first division from Surbiton. McGuire, fully recovered from a hamstring injury, is available on both days for Teddington.

In last week's match against St Albans, he came on only to take the corners.

Indoor results, page 43

SPORT IN BRIEF

Determined Davies puts Taylor's record at risk

DENNIS TAYLOR, the only player to have competed at the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, every year since it first became permanent home to the Embassy snooker world championship in 1977, was left requiring an unlikely comeback to protect his record in Blackpool last night. Looking nervous, Taylor, 46, trailed Anthony Davies, of Barry, 8-1 after the first session of their best-of-19-frame match in the final qualifying round of the championship this year.

Taylor, from Northern Ireland, who captured the title in 1985, reached the final of the Liverpool Victoria charity challenge in Birmingham six days ago but the improved form he displayed there was absent as Davies included breaks of 48, 127, 77 and 46 in moving to within two frames of victory.

Naseem under scrutiny

BOXING: Naseem Hamed will be able to show his worth as a world title contender when he defends his World Boxing Council (WBC) super-bantamweight International title against Armando Castro, of Mexico, in Glasgow tonight (Srikumar Sen writes). The flashy Yorkshireman has been promised a bout on a Mike Tyson bill in Las Vegas when the former heavyweight champion comes out of prison, probably in May. Castro, 31, has lost just 16 of 63 bouts. The younger Naseem, however, should halt him around the sixth round.

Imola improvements

MOTOR SPORT: Organisers of the San Marino Grand Prix, which is due to be held on April 30, are to invest about £4 million to improve safety at the Imola track. Changes at Imola were urged by the FIA, the sport's governing body, and by the Formula One drivers' association after Roland Ratzenberger and Ayrton Senna were killed in high-speed crashes at the track last year.

Favourites left trailing

SKIING: Kristian Ghedina, of Italy, beat the Austrian favourites to score an emphatic victory in a men's World Cup downhill race in Wengen, Switzerland, yesterday. Ghedina, whose two previous World Cup triumphs were secured in 1990, won from Peter Rzehak and Hannes Trinkl, both of Austria, in 2min 26.33sec, a margin of 0.85sec.

Icy roads challenge McRae

MOTOR SPORT: Colin McRae, of Scotland, driving a Subaru, will be one of the main challengers to the title-holder, Didier Auriol, when the 1995 World Rally championship gets under way tomorrow with the Monte Carlo Classic, given extra spice this year for the starters from five European cities by snow-covered mountain roads and new regulations.

Good fortune can smile on Dwyer

BY OUR IRISH RACING CORRESPONDENT

GRANTED a favourable bulletin on the condition of the Leopardstown course this morning, Fortune And Fame and Montelado will return from lengthy absences in the AIG (Europe) Irish Champion Hurdle tomorrow. Off the course for nine and 22 months respectively, both have the type of chassis to turn their trainers' hair grey.

A tendon problem has kept Montelado on the sidelines since breaking the course record in the Supreme Novices' Hurdle at Cheltenham, and it is a reflection of his brilliance that he figures so highly in this season's Champion Hurdle betting.

His trainer, Pat Flynn, has shown immense patience in bringing Montelado back to action and he is prepared to continue with that philosophy. "He is a horse that always improves big time in the spring," Flynn said. "Before he won at Cheltenham, he was beaten at Leopardstown over Christmas but I wasn't worried because I knew the improvement in him. If he finishes in the first three I will be very pleased."

It is significant, then, that Flynn allows his unbeaten novice, Aries Girl, to take her chance. Tough and happy on soft ground, she has the Sun Alliance Hurdle as her objective. If there are any fitness chinks in the armour of the big two she can exploit them.

Dermot Weld reports Fortune And Fame "as fit as I can get him on the prevailing ground". Plagued by tendon problems of his own, Fortune And Fame looked to have last year's Champion Hurdle at his mercy only to be cast in his box just days before the race. The winner of this race last year, Fortune And Fame missed his intended comeback over Christmas because his blood was wrong, but Weld said: "He's in great form."

Neither Fortune And Fame nor Montelado will be suited by searching conditions but the reports of Fortune And Fame's fitness are encouraging. Mark Dwyer, booked on Thursday, can enjoy a profitable spare ride.

Cheltenham Gold Cup outsiders Second Schedual, Belvederian and Antonin, trained at Thirsk by Sue Bramall, tackle the Pierse Leopardstown Chase. Sixth to Deep Bramble at Sandown last time, Antonin is reported "in fine form" by his trainer. However, Jim Dreaper's exciting novice, Harcon, looks the likely winner.

Ireland's top two-mile novices meet in the Baileys Arkle Chase and Klairon Davis can confirm his narrow defeat of Winter Belle over course and distance last month.

LEOPARDSTOWN TOMORROW

GOING: HEAVY (STEWARDS WILL UPDATE PROSPECTS TODAY)

2.45 AIG (EUROPE) IRISH CHAMPION HURDLE

(Ir£34,000: 2m) (8 runners)

1	/1131-	FORTUNE AND FAME 270 (G,S) (M Smurfit) D Weld 8-11-10	M Dwyer
2	12-121/	MONTELADO 677 (F,G,S) (F Hannon) P Flynn 8-11-10	C Swan
3	65300-5	SLANEY SPECIAL 18 (S) (Talbot Hotel) F Berry 8-11-10	C O'Dwyer
4	P0000-0	VALAMIR 18 (B) (L McDonnell) P Delaney 5-11-6	T Treacy
5	121111-	ARIES GIRL 26 (G,S) (W Start) P Flynn 6-11-5	K O'Brien
6	21153-P	MAGIC FEELING 10 (F,G,S) (Mrs J Ryan) A O'Brien 5-11-1	K Gaule
7	42F12-0	TROPICAL LAKE 6 (G,S) (G Hoggard) M Hourigan 5-11-1	J Broderick
8	1/222-2	CLIFDON FOG 15 (J Hill) J Bolger 4-10-10	C Bowens

BETTING: 11-10 Fortune And Fame, 6-4 Montelado, 4-1 Aries Girl, 12-1 Tropical Lake, 16-1 Magic Feeling, 20-1 Clifdon Fog, 50-1 Slaney Special, 66-1 Valamir.

Killeshin makes debut between the flags

KILLESHIN, one of last year's top hunter chasers, makes his point-to-point debut at Barbury Castle today in the open race at the **Point-to-Point Owners' Club** meeting (Brian Beel writes).

John Manners paid £1,550 for Killeshin at the Ascot sales in 1993. Sent straight into hunter chasing at Lingfield last February, he was pulled up at odds of 50-1. On his next outing, at Leicester, he defied odds of 100-1 to beat the useful Fine Lace by 25 lengths. His moment of glory, however, came when winning the Foxhunter's at Aintree.

Killeshin is in the second division of the Land Rover Open, and is up against three other 1994 hunter chase winners, Celtic Abbey, Cool Relation and Gold Shot, but the biggest danger is last Sunday's winner, Golden Freeze.

The Cambridge Harriers tomorrow will not receive the same attention as last Sunday's Tweseldown meeting. However, the return of the 1988 Champion Hurdle winner, Celtic Shot, who is now trained by David Tatlow, will prove of interest to many.

TODAY'S MEETING: Point-to-Point Owners' Club, Barbury Castle, between Marlborough and Broad Hinton (first race, 10.30). TOMORROW: Cambridge Harriers, Cottenham, 4 miles north of Cambridge (12.00).

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

1.25 Don't Drop Bombs. 1.55 Spender. 2.25 Fiveaday. 2.55 Mr Nevermind. 3.25 Mac's Taxi. 3.55 Kaafih Homm.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 1.25 Don't Drop Bombs. 2.25 Fiveaday. 3.55 **KAAFIH HOMM.**

GOING: STANDARD SIS

DRAW: 6F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

1.25 STUBBS AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP

(£2,776: 1m 4f) (11 runners)

1	0-15	CARLOWITZ 4 (CD,BF,G) A Moore 7-11-7	Mrs J Moore (5) 1
2	046-	CAN CAN CHARLIE 25 (G,S) J Pearce 5-11-4	Mrs L Pearce 9
3	0/26	KILLICK 3 (C,D,F,G) A Bailey 7-10-8	Miss Bridget Gatehouse (5) 4
4	330-	THE FROG LADY 40J D Arbuthnot 4-10-2	Mrs D Arbuthnot 10
5	400-	STORM BIDDER 38 (H) B Gubby 4-9-13	Mrs M Cowdrey 8
6	5-01	ROYAL CIRCUS 9 (C,D,F,G) J O'Shea 6-9-10	Mrs S Bosley (5) 6
7	00-0	CONE LANE 18 (C,D,F,G) B Gubby 9-9-3	Mrs M Busby (5) 2
8	04-5	DON'T DROP BOMBS 8 (V,CD,G) P Feilden 6-9-2	Miss J Feilden 5
9	00-0	MORJINSKI 9 D Ffrench Davis 5-9-0	Miss S Mitchell 11
10	0334	MALINGERER 8 (BF) D Wilson 4-9-0	Miss A Harwood 7
11	060-	WRITTEN AGREEMENT 26J R Peacock 7-9-0	Mrs C Peacock (5) 3

11-4 Killick, 3-1 Royal Circus, 7-2 Carlowitz, 6-1 Malingerer, 7-1 Can Can Charlie, 10-1 Cone Lane, 12-1 The Frog Lady, 14-1 others.

1.55 HARRINGTON BIRD CLAIMING STAKES

(£3,110: 6f) (7)

1	010-	ROCKY WATERS 35 (CD,F,G) G L Moore 6-9-7	A Morris 1
2	3-22	EVERSET 5 (D,BF,F,G,S) A Bailey 7-9-3	L Dettori 4
3	40-5	FARFELU 9 (B,C,D,F,G) W Muir 8-9-3	J Weaver 3
4	26-3	SPENDER 11 (CD,F,G) P Harris 6-9-1	R Cochrane 6
5	000-	MHEANMETOO 120 (F) D Williams 4-8-9	D Griffiths (5) 2
6	00-0	PAPAGOS 9 S Dow 4-8-3	Stephen Davies 5
7	00-0	YOUCANSTOPLOOKING 8 S Dow 4-8-3	S Sanders (5) 7

8-4 Everset, 5-2 Spender, 7-2 Farfelu, 5-1 Rocky Waters, 20-1 Mheanmetoo, 25-1 Youcanstoplooking, 33-1 Papagos.

2.25 SNAFFLES MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,967: 6f) (8)

1	20-2	BOLD EFFORT 10 K Cunningham-Brown 9-0	J Weaver 6
2	020-	CHEWIT 21 A Moore 9-0	Candy Morris 2
3	60-4	FIVEADAY 11 (BF) B Hanbury 9-0	M Rimmer 3
4	02-5	LOGIE 10 (B) M Jarvis 9-0	W Woods 5
5	005-	FIERY FOOTSTEPS 21 P Howling 8-9	D Wright (3) 4
6	04-6	JUST JESTING 7 G L Moore 9-0	R Perham 7
7	63-2	MERRIE LE BOW 11 Pat Mitchell 8-9	J McLaughlin 8
8		OUR DOROTHY C Williams 8-9	J Quinn 1

9-4 Fiveaday, 3-1 Merrie Le Bow, 4-1 Logie, 5-1 Bold Effort, 7-1 Chewit, 8-1 Fiery Footsteps, 10-1 others.

2.55 CECIL ALDIN HANDICAP

(£3,725: 1m) (10)

1	12-1	RED VALERIAN 7 (B,CD,F,G) K McAuliffe 4-10-0	R Cochrane 9
2	22-5	MR NEVERMIND 7 (C,F,G) G L Moore 5-9-12	S Whitworth 4
3	24-1	AITCH N'BEE 17 (C,D,G,S) Lady Herries 12-9-5	Shona Crombie (7) 5
4	00-0	SHEPHERD MARKET 18 (F) D Wilson 4-9-3	N Gwilliams 10
5	540-	ROMAN REEL 86 (F) G L Moore 4-8-13	A Morris 7
6	2-11	KINNEGAD KID 11 (CD,G,S) R Ingram 6-8-1	D Wright (3) 8
7	20-2	HATTA SUNSHINE 18 (C,G) A Moore 5-7-13	T Williams 1
8	01-0	KRAYYAN DAWN 18 (C,BF,G) R Akehurst 5-7-10	J Quinn 2
9	06-4	KISSAVOS 15 (V,C,D,F,G) C C Elsey 9-7-7	M Baird (7) 6
10	60-0	PAIR OF JACKS 11 (B) D Wilson 5-7-7	G Bardwell 3

3-1 Red Valerian, 7-2 Mr Nevermind, Kinnegad Kid, 4-1 Aitch N'Bee, 5-1 Hatta Sunshine, 8-1 Kissavos, 16-1 Krayyan Dawn, 20-1 others.

3.25 HERRING HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £3,639: 7f) (2)

1	6-22	MAC'S TAXI 7 (BF) P Haslam 9-7	J Weaver 2
2	00-4	POLLY GARTER 8 R Hannon 9-3	L Dettori 1

1-3 Mac's Taxi, 9-4 Polly Garter

3.55 MUNNINGS LIMITED STAKES

(£2,663: 1m 2f) (7)

1	6-62	BAG OF TRICKS 7 (D,G) S Dow 5-9-3	J Weaver 7
2	28/3	TROPICAL JUNGLE 18 (BF) P Mitchell 5-9-3	L Dettori 1
3	1-21	KAAFIH HOMM 4 (CD,G) N Callaghan 4-9-2	R Cochrane 6
4	00-5	CANARY FALCON 18 R O'Sullivan 4-9-0	W Woods 2
5	0-66	TU OPES 5 (F,G) J L Harris 4-9-0	Dale Gibson 5
6	06-0	PEARLY RIVER 18 (C,G) J Scargill 4-8-9	M Rimmer 4
7	0-03	PROFIT RELEASE 15 (F) M Johnston 4-8-9	T Williams 3

3-1 Tropical Jungle, 7-2 Kaafih Homm, 4-1 Bag Of Tricks, 5-1 Profit Release, Tu Opes, 7-1 Canary Falcon, 10-1 Pearly River.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: P Harris, 6 winners from 20 runners, 30.0%; K McAuliffe, 4 from 17, 23.5%; M Johnston, 28 from 145, 19.3%; N Callaghan, 14 from 79, 17.7%; R O'Sullivan, 35 from 226, 15.5%; W Muir, 16 from 110, 14.5%.

JOCKEYS: L Dettori, 49 winners from 181 rides, 27.1%; J Weaver, 25 from 126, 19.8%; R Cochrane, 21 from 130, 16.2%; Stephen Davies, 15 from 117, 12.8%; W Woods, 6 from 47, 12.8%; . Only qualifiers.

WOLVERHAMPTON

THUNDERER

7.00 Shaft Of Light. 7.30 Indian Serenade. 8.00 Quinzii Martin. 8.30 Carrolls Marc. 9.00 Ultra Beet. 9.30 Something Speedy.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

7.00 MARS MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES

(3-Y-O: £2,710: 1m 1f 79yd) (7 runners)

1	00-0	FOOLS MILLYONS 5 (V) W Bentley 9-0	J Fanning 6
2		HAYA YA KEFAAH M Prescott 9-0	W Woods 5
3	4-23	LAWBUSTER 14 (B) W Muir 9-0	J Weaver 3
4	530-	MR MACTAVISH 87 Mrs J Cecil 9-0	T Ives 7
5	0-	PARKLIFE 42 P Haslam 9-0	J Stack (5) 1
6	2	SHAFT OF LIGHT 14 Lord Huntingdon 9-0	L Dettori 4
7	43-3	THE CAPE DOCTOR 16 A Foster 9-0	J D Smith (5) 2

9-4 Shaft Of Light, 100-30 The Cape Doctor, 7-2 Lawbuster, 4-1 Haya Ya Kefaah, 9-2 Mr Mactavish, 25-1 Fools Millyons, 100-1 Parklife.

7.30 JUPITER HANDICAP (£2,433: 6f) (13)

1	5-35	DELROB 10 (C,G) D Haydn Jones 4-9-11	A Mackay 1
2	10-0	RAPIER POINT 8 (D,G) P Haslam 4-9-9	J Weaver 9
3	64-0	CAHERASS COURT 10 B Preece 4-9-9	J Stack (5) 10
4	/0-0	BOLD CYRANO 19 B Palling 4-9-7	Stephen Davies 3
5	255-	HERSHEBAR 334 (D,G) G Fierro 5-9-5	S Sanders (5) 12
6	10-5	ARC LAMP 10 (CD,F,G) J Glover 9-9-2	S Richardson (7) 5
7	03-4	HEATHYARDS LADY 14 (CD,F,G) R Hollinshead 4-8-13	T Ives 7
8	0-04	FARNDALE 3 (G) (CD) J Berry 8-8-13	C Lowther (7) 4
9	23-3	INDIAN SERENADE 15 (BF) P Harris 4-8-12	L Dettori 13
10	060-	FARMER JOCK 25 (CD,F,G,S) Mrs N Macauley 13-8-9	M Fenton 6
11	2-50	AQUADO 5 (V,F) A Forbes 6-7-12	J Quinn 2
12	05-0	DANCE AND SING 10 D Williams 5-7-10	N Varley (5) 11
13	508-	BECKYHANNAH 25 (B,D,S) R Bastiman 5-7-7	D Wright (3) 8

5-2 Indian Serenade, 7-2 Heathyards Lady, 9-2 Delrob, 6-1 Arc Lamp, 10-1 Rapier Point, 12-1 Hershebar, Caherass Court, 16-1 others.

8.00 PLUTO HANDICAP (£2,788: 7f) (9)

1	42-2	LITTLE IBNR 14 (C,D,G) P Evans 4-10-0	L Dettori 9
2	3-66	CHINOUR 14 (D,F,G) E Alston 7-9-12	J Weaver 7
3	00-5	EDUCATED PET 15 (C,F,G,S) B Preece 6-9-6	T Wall 8
4	2-31	ALPINE JOHNNY 8 (CD,G) R Hollinshead 4-9-3	A Garth (5) 2
5	-010	QUINZII MARTIN 5 (V,CD,G) D Haydn Jones 7-8-11	T Williams 6
6	040-	COME ON LUCY 36J S Coathup 6-8-9	S James (7) 1
7	600-	WELSH HERITAGE 47J R Price 5-8-8	Stephen Davies 4
8	65-0	GALLOP TO GLORY 12 (BE) A Forbes 5-7-10	J Quinn 3
9	0-00	WOODLANDS ELECTRIC 10 P Pritchard 5-7-7	N Adams 5

9-4 Little Ibnr, 5-2 Alpine Johnny, 5-1 Chinour, 6-1 Educated Pet, 7-1 Quinzii Martin, 8-1 Come On Lucy, 10-1 others.

8.30 BIRMINGHAM CITY BLUE NOSE HANDICAP

(£2,710: 1m 6f 166yd) (7)

1	0/0	ELECTROLYTE 19 (G) B Palling 5-10-0	Stephen Davies 1
2	0-22	IOTA 10 (CD,F,G,S) J L Harris 6-10-0	L Dettori 5
3	3-53	MILNGAVIE 7 (CD,F,G,S) M Johnston 5-9-13	Oliver Casey (7) 6
4	023-	PREMIER DANCE 21 (C,F,G) D Haydn Jones 8-9-5	A Mackay 2
5	520-	SUIVEZ 98J (F) Mrs N Macauley 5-9-4	S Sanders (5) 3
6	01-2	SCALP 'EM 9 (C,F,G) P Evans 7-8-13	T Ives 7
7	00-3	CARROLLS MARC 14 (CD,F,G) P Haslam 7-8-12	J Weaver 4

7-4 Iota, 11-4 Premier Dance, 5-1 Milngavie, 7-1 Scalp 'em, 8-1 Carrolls Marc, 12-1 Suivez, 20-1 Electrolyte.

9.00 MERCURY CLAIMING STAKES

(3-Y-O: £2,433: 5f) (7)

1	3-41	ULTRA BEET 7 (D,G) P Haslam 8-12	J Weaver 2
2	54-1	BAILEYS SUNSET 18 (D,F,G) M Johnston 8-8	T Williams 6
3	04-5	SUPERBIT 14 B McMahon 8-8	S Sanders (5) 4
4	60-0	PRECIOUS TIMES 3 M Meagher 8-2	D Wright (3) 5
5	624-	C-YER-SIMMIE 25 (D,G) R Hollinshead 8-1	A Garth (5) 7
6	04-0	PATS DELIGHT 14 S Coathup 8-1	N Adams 3
7	10-5	LADY PUI 18 (B,D,G,S) J Berry 7-11	L Charnock 1

9-4 Baileys Sunset, 3-1 Ultra Beet, 7-2 C-Yer-Simmie, 4-1 Lady Pui, 8-1 Superbit, 25-1 Pats Delight, 50-1 Precious Times.

9.30 VENUS APPRENTICES HANDICAP

(3-Y-O: £2,433: 1m 1f 79yd) (11)

1	001-	OUR BAIRN 82 (D,S) W Bentley 9-7	J Gracey (7) 7
2	05-6	FOOLS OF PRIDE 14 R Hollinshead 9-6	A Eddery (5) 5
3	501-	SOMETHING SPEEDY 42 (C,G) P Bevan 9-5	C Hawksley 1
4	09-0	SABICAS 14 (B) S Williams 9-5	G Faulkner (5) 6
5	00-6	RED SPECTACLE 18 P Haslam 9-5	Nicola Howarth (5) 9
6	040-	BOUNDARY EXPRESS 66 M Johnston 9-1	Oliver Casey (3) 10
7	000-	SCYLLA 52 P Haslam 9-0	Carol Davison (5) 11
8	000-	COMMANCHE STORM 75 K Wingrove 8-10	S Lanigan (3) 8
9	350-	HEVER GOLF LADY 37 T Naughton 8-7	V Halliday 4
10	500-	CENTAUR EXPRESS 137 A Forbes 8-5	G Parkin 2
11	500-	LADY LUCY LINNET 71 N Graham 8-5	M Baird 3

9-4 Red Spectacle, 11-4 Our Bairn, 7-2 Something Speedy, 7-1 Hever Golf Lady, 8-1 Fools Of Pride, 10-1 Boundary Express, 20-1 Scylla, 25-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Johnston, 19 winners from 69 runners, 27.5%; M Prescott, 12 from 50, 24.0%; N Graham, 3 from 13, 23.1%; Lord Huntingdon, 13 from 57, 22.8%; R Bastiman, 4 from 18, 22.2%; P Haslam, 15 from 68, 22.1%.

JOCKEYS: J Weaver, 37 winners from 144 rides, 25.7%; L Dettori, 29 from 145, 20.0%; M Baird, 5 from 31, 16.1%; D Wright, 11 from 100, 11.0%. Only qualifiers.

Early cancellation for Newton Abbot

HEAVY rain, which caused the cancellation of yesterday's Kempton fixture, was also the reason for the early abandonment of Newton Abbot on Monday. Stewards there were given special dispensation from the Jockey Club to call the meeting off early.

Despite yesterday's loss, Kempton officials are hopeful that today's meeting will go ahead. There is a 7am inspection.

Confidence is high that the other two turf meetings today, Haydock and Catterick, will take place. However, prospects for Leicester on Tuesday are grim, with the track at present unraceable.

CATTERICK

THUNDERER

12.40 Cool Dude. 1.10 Shoofe. 1.40 In Truth. 2.10 Pinecone Peter. 2.40 Village Reindeer. 3.10 Seagull Hollow. 3.40 Decent Fairway. 4.10 Gordon.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.10 **KING ATHELSTAN.**

GOING: SOFT SIS

12.40 DARLINGTON CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,093: 2m) (15 runners)

1	5-0P	BLINDIGO 26 (D,G,S) P Monteith 7-11-13	G Cahill (4)
2	2061	ERICOLIN 8 (D,F,G,S) N Tinkler 5-11-12	E Husband
3	6204	KALKO 26 (D,G,S) A Harrison 6-11-7	D Bentley
4	1023	COOL DUDE 52 (CD,F,G,S) J Johnson 9-11-7	S Taylor
5	0465	CHEEKY POT 26 (B,D,F,S) Denys Smith 7-11-6	D Ryan (4)
6	5625	FLY TO THE END 26 J Quinn 5-10-13	J Driscoll (4)
7	3206	IJAB 15 J Parkes 5-10-13	R McCarthy (7)
8	06-4	MILTON ROOMS 21 D Garraton 6-10-12	F Leahy
9	2366	QUICK DECISION 35 (B) J Cresswell 4-10-6	P McLoughlin
10	5440	HADI 7 W Storey 4-10-2	J Supple
11	PP-0	STYLISH GENT 8 (CD,F,G) G Oldroyd 8-10-1	S Wynne
12	6P00	FRANKLY MY DEAR 43 J J O'Neill 4-10-0	A Roche
13	05-0	TOUGH DEAL 21 P Bradley 7-10-0	T Eley
14	8P-0	KEEP BATTLING 8 J Goldie 5-10-0	F Perratt
15	4PR/	BELLE ISLE BILL 828P (B) W Smith 10-10-0	J Bracey (7)

3-1 Cool Dude, 4-1 Kalko, 5-1 Ericolin, 7-1 Cheeky Pot, 8-1 Fly To The End, Ijab, 10-1 Milton Rooms, 12-1 Quick Decision, 14-1 others.

1.10 SWALE MAIDEN HURDLE

(£2,376: 3m 1f 110yd) (23)

1	0-0	ASK ME LATER 121 Mrs S Bradburne 6-11-0	R Murphy (7)
2		AYLESBURY LAD D Lamb 6-11-0	Mr A Manners (7)
3		CHALKIELAW R McDonald 5-11-0	R Hodge
4	60	CRY WILD 58 L Lungo 5-11-0	F Perratt (5)
5	-64P	DORLIN CASTLE 35 L Lungo 7-11-0	T Reed
6	2-4	HAGAR 75 J Charlton 5-11-0	B Storey
7	00	JARLMAR 36 H Gill 8-11-0	B Grattan (7)
8		MISTER MUDDYPAWS J Johnson 5-11-0	N Doughty
9	600P	MISTI HUNTER 33 Miss M Milligan 6-11-0	R Guest
10	6-2	MONBODDO 44 J J O'Neill 5-11-0	A Roche (3)
11	4/P	NEW CHARGES 45 (G) P Beaumont 8-11-0	C Hawkins
12	024-	OTHER RANKS 275 P Dennis 7-11-0	D Byrne
13	2332	PARIAH 26 R Fisher 6-11-0	A Thornton
14	00-5	PETER 14 D Whitaker 7-11-0	B Harding (5)
15	0430	ROLY PRIOR 8 Ms L Plater 6-11-0	D Bentley (3)
16	522P	SHOOFE 26 K Morgan 7-11-0	A S Smith
17	-23P	SOLOMAN SPRINGS 56 Mrs V Ward 5-11-0	Mr D Parker (5)
18	50F	TUDOR FELLOW 25 J Wade 6-11-0	K Jones
19	25	WISE ADVICE 31 M Hammond 5-11-0	A Dobbin
20	00	FREETOME 54 J Charlton 7-10-9	A K Smith (7)
21	6-22	MANETTIA 54 (G) Mrs M Reveley 6-10-9	P Niven
22		MISS MCCORMICK D Alder 6-10-9	K Johnson
23	0-P	MY GONNY 86 J Dodds 6-10-9	F Leahy (5)

7-2 Manettia, 5-1 Monboddo, 6-1 Pariah, 7-1 Shoofe, 8-1 Wise Advice, 10-1 Soloman Springs, Hagar, 12-1 Other Ranks, 14-1 others.

1.40 BEDALE NOVICES CHASE

(£3,184: 2m) (13)

1	5214	GOLDEN ISLE 52 (CD,F,G) J Charlton 11-11-10	B Storey
2	P-F6	CELTIC TOKEN 26 P Blockley 6-11-3	Gary Lyons
3	P6P6	DOUGLAS RIDGE 38 Mrs K Tutty 7-11-3	Mr N Tutty
4	-272	IN TRUTH 11 (G,S) S Gollings 7-11-3	R Guest
5	-33P	MILS MIJ 7 (F,G,S) T Cuthbert 10-11-3	T Reed
6	444/	NIAD 1731 J Johnson 11-11-3	N Doughty
7	0-06	RORY JOHN 21 S Campion 7-11-3	P Midgley (3)
8	5-56	SANTARAY 63 (G,S) T Donnelly 9-11-3	T Eley (3)
9	0435	SHAHGRAM 11 (S) P Beaumont 7-11-3	R Supple
10	3PU3	STOP THE WALLER 25 M Barnes 6-11-3	A Dobbin
11	/00	ENKINDLE 48 B Murray 8-10-12	D Byrne
12	-00U	ADMISSION 33 N Chamberlain 5-10-7	A Thornton
13	0-0P	GOLDEN SAVANNAH 80 (G) M W Easterby 5-10-7	J Callaghan

11-4 In Truth, 4-1 Mils Mij, 5-1 Golden Isle, 6-1 Shahgram, 8-1 Stop The Waller, Celtic Token, 10-1 Santaray, 14-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: C Thornton, 3 winners from 9 runners, 33.3%; Mrs P Sly, 3 from 9, 33.3%; K Morgan, 9 from 31, 29.0%; Mrs M Reveley, 25 from 100, 25.0%; L Lungo, 6 from 26, 23.1%; N Tinkler, 8 from 39, 20.5%.

JOCKEYS: A S Smith, 7 winners from 26 rides, 26.9%; P Niven, 19 from 84, 22.6%; R Hodge, 7 from 34, 20.6%; A Dobbin, 10 from 65, 15.4%; R Marley, 6 from 41, 14.6%; D Byrne, 6 from 43, 14.0%.

2.10 LEYBURN HANDICAP HURDLE

(£2,540: 2m) (17)

1	220-	SRIVIJAYA 379 (D,F,G) Mrs M Reveley 8-11-10	P Niven
2	0000	WHO'S TEF 25 (D,F) M H Easterby 7-11-6	R Garritty
3	11/	IMHOTEP 868 (CD,F,G) W Cunningham 8-11-4	N Smith
4	238-	THE TOASTER 213 (D,S) J Quinn 8-11-2	R Marley
5	3155	FRET 26 (CD,G,S) J Wainwright 5-11-0	P Midgley (3)
6	F60-	FLOWING RIVER 284 (CD,F,G) W Barker 9-11-0	G Harker
7	1-54	PINECONE PETER 44 (V,D,G,S) O Brennan 8-10-11	M Brennan
8	5P0-	SHARRIBA 274 (D,S) D Moffatt 6-10-11	D J Moffatt (3)
9	130	MASTER HYDE 7 (D,F) W Storey 6-10-8	K Johnson
10	4616	TWIN FALLS 56 (C,BF,G) G Moore 4-10-7	J Callaghan
11	100-	MARTINI EXECUTIVE 482 (B,D,F) B Wilkinson 7-10-6	R Guest
12	-3F4	KING ATHELSTAN 51 (D,BF,G) K Morgan 7-10-3	A S Smith
13	3145	BACK BEFORE DAWN 45 (D,G,S) P Monteith 8-10-2	A Dobbin
14	/3P	FANTASTICAL 86 (D,G) J J O'Neill 7-10-2	A Roche (3)
15	3323	CHARLYCIA 26 (V,D,F,G,S) T Carr 7-10-1	M Clarke (7)
16	P-2F	BUD'S BET 52 (D,BF,F) W Haigh 7-10-1	D Byrne
17	12	KINTAVI 21 (D,S) T Donnelly 5-10-0	T Eley (3)

7-2 King Athelstan, 6-1 Twin Falls, 7-1 Charlycia, 8-1 Srivijaya, Back Before Dawn, 10-1 Pinecone Peter, Bud's Bet, 12-1 Imhotep, 14-1 others.

2.40 LEEMING HANDICAP CHASE

(£3,028: 3m 1f 110yd) (11)

1	453-	CALABRESE 246 (B,F,G,S) M W Easterby 10-12-0	Mr M Watson
2	/1-1	VILLAGE REINDEER 46 (F,S) P Calver 8-11-6	T Reed
3	2211	PIMS GUNNER 21 (CD,F,G,S) M Hammond 7-11-6	A Dobbin
4	12-4	YOUNG MINER 51 (CD,G,S) Mrs T M-Skinner 9-11-2	G Upton
5	PP-1	ABERCROMBY CHIEF 74 (G,S) J Johnson 10-11-0	N Doughty
6	PP-P	BALLINROSTIG 21 (F,G) B Wilkinson 12-10-12	N Smith
7	13-5	CAPITAL PUNISHMENT 58 (CD,F,G) Miss M Milligan 9-10-9	J Callaghan
8	P032	NAWRIK 35 (D,S) L Lungo 6-10-0	F Perratt (5)
9	3456	TRUELY ROYAL 35 (CD,G,S) J Charlton 11-10-0	B Storey
10	5664	FISH QUAY 21 (F,G,S) Mrs K Lamb 12-10-0	Miss S Lamb (7)
11	435P	LOCAL FLYER 1 (G) P Blockley 6-10-0	Gary Lyons

3-1 Pims Gunner, 4-1 Village Reindeer, 5-1 Young Miner, 6-1 Nawrik, 7-1 Abercromby Chief, 8-1 Calabrese, 10-1 Capital Punishment, 12-1 others.

3.10 SEAMER NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE

(£2,604: 2m) (8)

1	2114	SEAGULL HOLLOW 25 (CD,G,S) M H Easterby 6-12-0	P Niven
2	2322	CHICHELL'S HURST 15 (S) Mrs P Sly 9-11-8	R Marley
3	-426	MAN OF MOREEF 70 J Oliver 8-10-3	B Storey
4	341P	EASBY MANDRINA 5 (D,G,S) S Kettlewell 8-10-2	P McLoughlin (5)
5	F-45	ANOTHER RED 35 W Raw 7-10-0	A Thornton
6	6656	NORTH PRIDE 8 (F) M Barnes 10-10-8	G Cahill (7)
7	-344	FAR OUT 26 (BF,F,S) O Brennan 9-10-0	M Brennan
8	0-05	WAYWARD EDWARD 21 (B) Mrs S Lamyman 9-10-0	R Davis

9-4 Chichell's Hurst, 3-1 Seagull Hollow, 4-1 North Pride, 5-1 Easby Mandrina, 7-1 Man Of Moreef, 10-1 Far Out, 14-1 others.

3.40 BONUSPRINT NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE

(Div I: £1,298: 2m) (16)

1		COOL GAME S Kettlewell 5-11-5	P McLoughlin (5)
2		DEVON CASTLE J Curtis 5-11-5	Mr S Walker (7)
3	2-	DOWN THE FELL 451 J Johnson 6-11-5	S Taylor (7)
4		HARRYS HARVEST Mrs S Smith 6-11-5	Mr L Donnelly (7)
5		PAINT YOUR WAGON N Chamberlain 5-11-5	Miss C Metcalfe (7)
6		SIMON SAYS J Hetherton 5-11-5	P Midgley (3)
7		SUTTON BOY Lady Ann Bowlby 6-11-5	G Cahill (7)
8	6	DECENT FAIRWAY 43 Mrs M Reveley 6-11-0	M Herrington (7)
9		LADY BOUQUET L Lungo 5-11-0	F Perratt (5)
10		CLASSIC CREST G Moore 4-10-7	J Supple (5)
11		EAU BENITE W Elsey 4-10-7	M Harris (7)
12		FLAT TOP M W Easterby 4-10-7	J Driscoll (7)
13		GENERAL'S ORDERS J Norton 4-10-7	W Fry (7)
14		MISTER FUNNYMAN B Wilkinson 4-10-7	P Walsh (7)
15		FESTIVE LASSIE T Barron 4-10-2	F Leahy (5)
16		NOON RIDGE Mrs K Tutty 4-10-2	Mr N Tutty

7-2 Decent Fairway, 4-1 Down The Fell, 6-1 Classic Crest, 7-1 others.

4.10 BONUSPRINT NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE

(Div II: £1,298: 2m) (15)

1		SEGGARS BANQUET P Beaumont 5-11-5	B Grattan (7)
2	0	LEGAL LORD 61 M Hammond 5-11-5	DOUBTFUL
3	0	PETOSKI BAY 61 J Johnson 5-11-5	S Taylor (7)
4	6	RIVERS END 19 J Edwards 5-11-5	D Bentley (3)
5	03	RUN ON THE RUN 31 J Quinn 5-11-5	J Driscoll (7)
6		SANTA CONCERTO L Lungo 6-11-5	F Perratt (5)
7		SCOTT SKINNER P Calver 5-11-5	S Wynne (3)
8		SO REEL J Dodds 5-11-5	F Leahy (5)
9	5	THE GALLOPIN'MAJOR 103 Mrs M Reveley 5-11-5	G Lee (5)
10		FOREVER SILVER L Lungo 5-11-0	I Jardine (7)
11	0	PRICE OF GOLD 66 F Watson 5-11-0	Mr A Robson
12		DAYTIME DAWN D Moffatt 4-10-7	D J Moffatt (3)
13		GORDON C Thornton 4-10-7	Mark Roberts (7)
14		HYA PRIM N Chamberlain 4-10-7	Miss C Metcalfe (7)
15		WHITEGATESPRINCESS J Johnson 4-10-2	A Larnach (3)

3-1 The Gallopin'major, 5-1 Rivers End, 6-1 Gordon, 7-1 others.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S TWO MEETINGS

Catterick Bridge

Going: soft

12.50 (2m 3f hdle) 1, Ingletonian (D Bentley, 6-1); 2, Lord Dorcet (6-4 fav); 3, Snaric (50-1). 16 ran. 1¼l, 20l. B Wilkinson. Tote: £8.50; £2.20, £1.80, £40.00. DF: £4.90. CSF £15.97

1.20 (2m hdle) 1, Familiar Art (N Bentley, 6-1); 2, Microlite (6-4 fav); 3, Bescaby Girl (50-1). 18 ran. NR: Rosy Lydgate. 1¾l, 2½l. G Moore. Tote: £6.00; £2.40, £1.70, £5.60. DF: £8.00. CSF: £14.69

1.50 (2m 3f hdle) 1, Lien De Famille (M Dwyer, 13-8 fav); 2, Jack Dreaming (66-1); 3, Dalusman (14-1). 15 ran. NR: Windswept Lady. 1¾l, 2½l. J Quinn. Tote: £2.90; £1.20, £13.40, £9.10. DF: £151.70. CSF: £88.81.

2.20 (3m 1f 110yd ch) 1, Crank Shaft (D Byrne, 4-5 fav; Thunderer's nap); 2, Snook Point (16-1); 3, Call The Shots (20-1). 18 ran. 12l, 2l. J Quinn. Tote: £1.80; £1.30, £4.30, £6.30. DF: £33.40. CSF: £16.14.

2.50 (2m 3f hdle) 1, Bold Pursuit (E Callaghan, 7-1); 2, Skolern (12-1); 3, Scrabo View (4-1 fav). 15 ran. NR: Tharsis. 6l, 7l. Jimmy Fitzgerald. Tote: £7.20; £3.20, £4.30, £1.80. DF: £38.20 Trio. £32.60 CSF: £82.13. Tricast: £352.19.

3.20 (2m 3f ch) 1, Valiant Warrior (D Bentley, 4-1); 2, Boston Rover (7-1), 3, Prince Yaza (25-1). Aiybak 7-4 fav (f). 9 ran. 5l, 15l. M Hammond. Tote: £4.00; £2.00, £2.50, £3.80. DF: £13.00. Trio. £22.30. CSF. £29.50 Tricast: £559.06

3.50 (3m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, Temple Garth (C Hawkins, 9-2); 2, D'Arbley Street (7-2). 3, Tony Murphys Lady (11-4 fav). 6 ran. 3l, 25l. P Beaumont. Tote: £5.60; £2.40, £2.80. DF: £8.90. CSF: £18.76.

Placepot: £14.50. Quadpot: £15.70

Southwell

Going: standard

1.40 (1m) 1, Harry Browne (S D Williams, 85-40); 2, Grand Selection (13-8 fav); 3, Samana Cay (6-1). 7 ran. 1l, 2½l. Mrs J Ramsden. Tote: £4.00; £1.50, £1.60. DF: £3.90. CSF: £6.30.

2.10 (1m) 1, Shuttlecock (M Fenton, 10-1); 2, No Submission (2-1 fav); 3, Super Benz (7-1). 13 ran. 1¾l, 5l. Mrs N Macauley. Tote: £11.80; £5.30, £1.40, £2.60. DF: £24.50. CSF: £31.39.

2.40 (6f) 1, Portend (C Teague, 4-5 fav). 2, Bold Frontier (11-2); 3, Russian Heroine (11-1). 9 ran. ¾l, ¾l. S Bowring. Tote: £1.80; £1.30, £1.80, £2.80. DF: £4.40 Trio. £20.10. CSF: £6.02. Tricast. £27.41

3.10 (7f) 1, Legal Fiction (T Williams, 3-1). 2, At The Savoy (12-1). 3, Ziggy's Dancer (5-2 fav). 8 ran. 10l, 4l. M Johnston. Tote: £3.80; £2.00, £2.00, £1.60. DF: £24.00. CSF. £34.51.

3.40 (1m 3f) 1, Killing Time (M Fenton, 10-1); 2, Rousitto (2-1 fav); 3, Greek Gold (8-1). 13 ran. 1l, 1¾l. Mrs N Macauley. Tote: £11.20; £2.90, £2.10, £2.30. DF: £31.30. CSF: £32.46.

4.10 (1m 4f) 1, Stevie's Wonder (G Carter, 6-1); 2, Mr Moriarty (11-1); 3, Sudden Spin (5-4 fav). 8 ran. Nk, 7l. M Ryan. Tote: £6.10; £1.70, £1.70, £1.40. DF: £31.30. CSF £63.30. Tricast: £123.41.

Placepot: £17.20.

Quadpot: not won (pool of £29.20 carried forward to Haydock Park today).

Yesterday's meeting at Kempton Park was abandoned because of a waterlogged course.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Catterick Bridge: 12.40 Quick Decision. Haydock Park: 3.00 Nuveen. Lingfield Park: 2.25 Logie. Wolverhampton: 7.00 Fools Millyons. 8.00 Gallop To Glory. 9.30 Sabicas.

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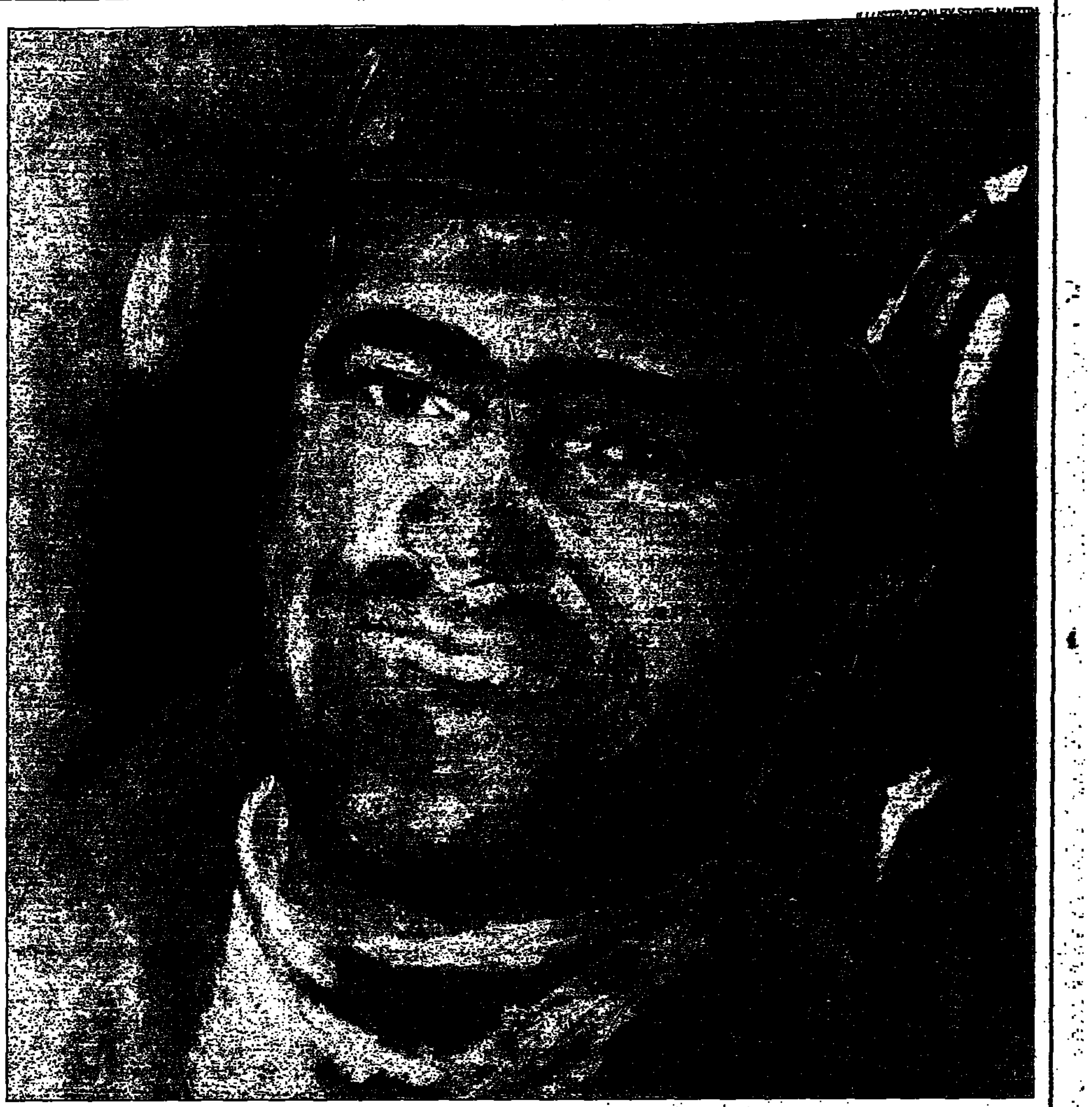
Saturday portrait: Alberto Tomba, by David Powell

King of the mountains prepares to descend into ski racing legend



Records are there to be broken, but bones are not, which is why Alberto Tomba will never become the most successful skier in Alpine World Cup history. He has no appetite for the high-risk speed races of downhill and super giant slalom and, by restricting himself to slalom and giant slalom, he does not win as often as he might. "The risks are too great," Tomba says of downhill and super-G. He enjoys life too much to spend any of it in hospital.

Instead, in Wengen, Switzerland, tomorrow, he will seek to equal the record of seven World Cup slalom wins in a season, held jointly by Ingemar Stenmark and Marc Girardelli. Tomba's sixth, in Kitzbühel last Sunday, was his 41st World Cup win, quite a turnround for a skier who started his career on the circuit by failing to finish in 12 of his first 13 slaloms. Stenmark's 13 victories in one season is within reach because Tomba, with two giant slalom wins as well, has registered eight successes, and there are six technical races to go. He has said he may even race a super-G if he needs the points to secure his first World Cup overall title.

Only Stenmark and Girardelli have won more races than the Italian who, by contrast, is circus clown and ringmaster in one. Stenmark, whose 86 wins came exclusively from the technical events, was withdrawn and shy; Girardelli, with 44 wins fished from all disciplines, is a loner and from ski racing's vast majority who appear to have ice in their veins. Tomba is rich in Italian blood.

Profiling Tomba is a writer's slalom, with so many gates to go through: the turbulent youth, the arrogant adult, the womaniser, the law-breaking, occasional thug of a policeman, the idol of millions, the incomparable skier. Who but Tomba would try to invade the ice at the Winter Olympics to greet Katarina Witt with flowers in the hope of a date? Who but Tomba would be on the jury to select a new Miss Italy, then start a relationship with the winner?

Who but Tomba could be booked by a fellow member of the *Carabinieri* for showing impatience in heavy traffic and putting a flashing blue light on top of his car to speed down the hard shoulder? And who but Tomba could be mainly responsible for the removal of football from the front page of *La Gazzetta dello Sport* for the first time in 50 years? When Tomba and Deborah Compagnoni won Olympic gold on the same day at the 1992 Olympics, the Italian sports daily newspaper went ski crazy, and Compagnoni was less than half the reason.

Like McEnroe and Gascoigne in recent years, Tomba's behaviour has been tolerated on the grounds of his enormous talent. Those who knew him as a boy could see trouble coming. "When he was eight, he was a bit crazy already; he used to ride a motorbike down our village street," the president of his fan club in Castel di Britti, where Tomba spent some of his childhood, said.

> 'Like McEnroe, his behaviour has been tolerated on the grounds of his enormous talent'

The son of a textiles millionaire from Bologna, Tomba was three when he started skiing. He and his brother, Marco, would set slalom courses on the hill in the garden of the family's winter holiday chalet. In those days, Marco was the better skier, but, at eight, his father, Franco, introduced Alberto to Roberto Siorpaes, a former national team member who taught him style. At 11, he joined Bologna ski club and, at 14, he was selected for the national C team.

The Italy head coach did not want Tomba, perceiving him to be a rich town-boy who would be a disruptive influence, but Paletta Marche, from the ski club in Modena, of which Tomba was a member, had friends in high places. Among them was Arrigo Gattai, the Italian federation president, who agreed to increase the squad size from ten to 11 to accommodate Tomba.

Spoilt and aggressive, Tomba looked down on the *montanari*. The Italian federation wanted him to be treated like any other skier — eating, training and living with the squad — but he was too difficult and, finally, Gustavo Thoeni was appointed as his personal coach, Giorgio D'Urbano as his fitness trainer.

Tombamania took off in the Italian resort of Sestriere in 1987, when he won the slalom and giant slalom. Back there five years later, his drawing power was underlined when thousands of followers left Turin for the mountains to watch him on the day that AC Milan brought their 44-match unbeaten record to Juventus.

You can take your pick from the Tomba banners that proliferate at races. "*Alberto, thanks for existing*" or "Alberto, the golden man". Granite man, more like. Tomba, 6ft and 14 stone, would not look out of place if he walked across the set of Super Bowl. Those huge thighs, that powerful upper body, a face that can strike an expression to make him look like James Cagney. And, if there is a dirty face among the angels of skiing, Tomba is it.

They know it well in Wengen. Two years ago, organisers accused him of an "imbecilic act" in smashing his way out of a ski-lift car during an argument with an attendant who was slow to open the door. Too often his nasty streak has been to the fore, too little his caring side. Competing in Slovenia two seasons ago, he donated his winnings to the children of war-torn Bosnia.

Last weekend, in the Austrian resort of Kitzbühel, Tomba's status was marked by the decision to compromise the showpiece downhill of the season to ensure that the slalom went ahead as scheduled. Afterwards, he was up to his old tricks, mischievously scrawling on the noticeboard of the press room and catching the attention of a policeman to give him a personal escort to Innsbruck airport because of a traffic jam.

After winning two Olympic golds in 1988, *la dolce vita* claimed another victim and Tomba won only one race the next season. The influence of Thoeni and, especially, D'Urbano, put him right. Gradually, he has matured, to the point that he is now "quiet in the heart", as the man from *Gazzetta* put it. Any improvement there is due to his girlfriend, the former Miss Italy, Martina Colombari. One does not hear comments now like the one before the 1992 Olympics: "I used to have a wild time with three women until 5am. Now I am in training, it is five women until 3am." In Kitzbühel, he kissed the snow to celebrate his victory, not the pretty girls.

On skis, nobody is as balanced or graceful as Tomba. Jure Kosir, the Slovenian who is second in the World Cup, acknowledged that the Italian is a class apart. "He is the best prepared and we are just trying to get closer," Kosir said. As Tomba said once: "People come to see me win and it is a responsibility not to be denied." His appeal is recognised by sponsors, his annual income of some £3.15 million achieved mainly by endorsements: skis, bindings, boots, poles, goggles, headband and products nothing to do with skiing.

Three years ago, in Kitzbühel, Tomba said he would retire in 1995, but now, at 28, he says he will decide in March. First are the world championships, a competition in which, despite three attempts, he has yet to win. A gold or two in Sierra Nevada, Spain, and a World Cup overall title might be the stamps on the Tomba postcard, the prompting he needs to deliver himself from the circuit. *Enjoy him on Eurosport or Ski Sunday tomorrow while you can.* When he goes, it will be like the snow has melted.

Pakistan unable to cope with de Villiers

By Our Sports Staff

AN IMPRESSIVE all-round performance by Fanie de Villiers enabled South Africa to seize control of the Test match against Pakistan in Johannesburg yesterday. De Villiers scored 66 not out, his best first-class score, to help South Africa reach 460 and then captured four wickets for 55 as Pakistan struggled to 177 for six by the close of the second day.

Pakistan's hopes of avoiding the follow-on in this first Test between the countries — they need a further 84 with four wickets remaining — rest with their captain, Salim Malik, who is unbeaten with 86, a highly accomplished innings.

After resuming at 354 for seven, South Africa lost their century-maker, Brian McMillan, in the eighth over of the day when he had scored 113 off 179 deliveries.

De Villiers then dominated the rest of the morning, making his runs from 68 balls with three sixes and nine fours. He and Allan Donald frustrated Pakistan by adding 71 for the last wicket.

After lunch de Villiers got to work with the ball, capturing two wickets in three deliveries in his fourth over. He had Saeed Anwar caught at slip for two and Asif Mujtaba caught behind second ball.

De Villiers struck again with the score 44, with Richardson, the wicketkeeper, again the catcher as Aamir Sohail went for 23. When he came back after tea he bowled Ijaz Ahmed for 19.

De Villiers continued in the spotlight when he held a superb running catch at long leg after Moin Khan had top-edged an attempted hook off McMillan, who had earlier bowled Inzamam-ul-Haq for 19.

Salim refused to be intimidated by the frequent loss of his partners. He hit the first ball he received from de Villiers for four and by the end of the day had hit 14 boundaries. Wasim Akram was ten not out at the close and much will depend on their seventh-wicket partnership today.

Scoreboard, page 43

Victoria tailenders highlight Atherton's problems

England lack cutting edge

From Alan Lee
Cricket Correspondent
in Bendigo, Victoria

THE principles of Douglas Jardine were never highly regarded in Australia, and his contribution to Bendigo folklore is faithfully in character. Frustrated by a stubborn partnership during England's visit here on the tumultuous 1932-33 tour, Jardine is said to have ridden roughshod over the lawbook and brought his twelfth man, one Harold Larwood, on to bowl.

There is a touch of Jardine in Michael Atherton in his attitude to all things Australian, but the present captain had no Larwood to call upon yesterday. Consequently, Victoria recovered from a parlous 106 for six and ended a torpid and much extended day's play on a respectable 222 for eight.

The seventh wicket added 59, the eighth 45, and Atherton's concession to Jardinesque behaviour was to use Graham Thorpe and Graham Gooch during the final half-hour. Gooch took a wicket with his first ball, which was no great endorsement of the regular bowlers.

Devon Malcolm, who had not bowled since the Sydney Test, 15 days ago, offered an abrasive spell in mid-afternoon, defying the sluggish nature of the pitch to beat several batsmen for pace, and Philip Tufnell, between the mandatory scowling and gesturing, took three wickets through subtle variations rather than appreciable turn. But there were lengthy periods when the England bowling looked utterly sterile.

They could have benefited from the presence of a second spin bowler, but that luxury is denied them now that Udal has joined the list of departures. There would surely have been a discussion over both Udal and Tufnell playing in Adelaide, where the fourth Test starts on Thursday, for the management insistence that Hick is an authentic spin bowler now has no credibility.

Hick did take a wicket yesterday, the ebullient Harvey falling to a return catch. This, however, was his first wicket at first-class level since he dismissed Mark Waugh at Newcastle, ten weeks ago. Between times, he had bowled only 25 overs, ample demonstration of his rating with the captain.

Tufnell appeals in vain for a leg-before decision against Jones. Photograph: Graham Morris

Atherton won the toss yesterday and, influenced by a drizzly morning that delayed the start by 70 minutes, chose to bowl. The response must have dismayed him, for the seamers elicited no movement and the Victoria openers were not divided until Tufnell struck with his second ball of the day.

It was a wide full toss, scarcely worthy of a wicket, but the nimbleness with which Rhodes stumped an overbalancing Elliott was the mark of a wicketkeeper whose confidence — much the most important area of his game — has been repaired. Rhodes has suffered bad times on tour and there was a phase when the arrival of Jack Russell posed a genuine threat to his Test place. It is a threat he has now seen off.

True to the contrary nature of this mission, however, the impression of Rhodes's improvement was still taking root when he was struck a nasty blow on the bridge of the nose when Larkin swept at Tufnell. Blood spurted from the wound, and the only assistance on hand was from the twelfth man, Angus Fraser. Bizarrely, Dave Roberts, the physiotherapist, had left the ground an hour earlier for a specialist's examination of a finger broken during training.

Most of the crowd mumbled their irritation when Dean Jones, still public favourite No 1 in this state, was out quickly to DeFreitas. Jones is speaking seriously of retirement now, but he would be much missed within a Victoria side full of promising but raw batting. Hodge, for instance, is badly out of form, and when he went cheaply, and Tufnell claimed two more wickets, England could envisage batting before the close.

They did not come close. Delayed at great length by the tail, England must have begun to realise how their predecessors felt on this ground. Until 1904, touring teams paid regular visits and the fixtures were generally advertised as an England XI against a Bendigo 28. The days are long gone when England could afford to concede such numerical superiority; nowadays, they struggle to bowl out 11.

Salisbury searches for improvement in form

IAN SALISBURY celebrates his 25th birthday today, as England A begin a four-day game with the Indian Combined Universities side in Delhi, seeking a return to form. Salisbury, the Sussex leg-spin bowler, was unimpressive in the first five-day international victory over India A in Bangalore and needs to find his line and length before the second international in Calcutta next week.

Though he started the tour with a haul of six for 48 in Bombay, Salisbury took just one wicket at Bangalore and struggled to establish any control. "I lost a bit of rhythm and their batsmen seemed to target me," he said. "As soon as I came on they tried to hit out, but I feel as if I'm bowling pretty well in the nets."

Nick Knight, Dominic Cork, Richard Stemp and Paul Nixon miss the Universities' game.

SCOREBOARD

VICTORIA: First innings

M T G Elliott st Rhodes b Tufnell	10
R P Larkin c Benjamin b Malcolm	49
*D M Jones lbw b DeFreitas	4
B J Hodge c Atherton b Malcolm	10
G B Gardiner c Hick b Tufnell	11
I J Harvey c and b Hick	41
D A Emerson b Tufnell	3
P R Reiffel lbw b Gooch	34
†D S Berry not out	30
S H Cook not out	7
Extras (b 1, lb 6, nb 16)	23
Total (8 wkts)	222

T R Corbett to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-43, 2-52, 3-72, 4-87, 5-98, 6-106, 7-165, 8-210.

BOWLING: Malcolm 20-2-52-2; Benjamin 19-6-43-0; DeFreitas 18-6-36-1; Tufnell 20-2-59-3; Hick 7-1-14-1; Thorpe 2-1-6-0; Gooch 2-1-5-1.

ENGLAND XI: *M A Atherton, G A Gooch, G A Hick, G P Thorpe, A J Stewart, J P Crawley, †S J Rhodes, P A J DeFreitas, J E Benjamin, D E Malcolm, P C R Tufnell.

Umpires: D L Holt and R A Emerson.

Managing to master the language of football

SIMON BARNES

On Saturday

SUNBATHING can seriously damage your health. Don't do it. As if skin cancer and sunstroke were not bad enough, you could end up being a football manager. For that is exactly what happened to Tom Coleman when he was sunning himself on a beach in Marbella, swallowing a beer to aid the tanning process. One moment he was an ordinary 62-year-old soaking up a few rays; the next, he was manager of the Spanish second-division club, Marbella.

For it happened that he fell into conversation with Slobodan Petrovic, president of Marbella football club, and a Yugoslavian-born millionaire. The two talked football, and it was at once clear that Coleman knew a fair bit about the game. It was also true that Marbella were struggling, managerless, towards the third division. And so Coleman was taken on to sort things out.

Coleman's cv is not the brightest in all football; he did once work as a scout for Aston Villa. But the real mystery of the whole thing is how the two communicated. Petrovic speaks no English and mangled, idiosyncratic Spanish; Coleman speaks English, and no Spanish.

Pocket money

Will this spread? We have all heard about rent-a-crowd. Mark Woodforde, the Australian tennis player, has taken the term literally. He had the backing of a small but vociferous group of patriots, cheering him along as he won his first-round match with Arnaud Boetsch, of France. As he left the court, he turned to the group of seven — and gave them Aus$50. "I've never done it before. It was just to let the kids know I appreciated their support. If I can put a smile on their faces, I've done my job." Despite this outgoing, it must be said that Woodforde is still ahead of the game. He lives in Monaco; in his ten years of professional tennis he has won $3.3 million (around £2.2 million).

As if by Magic

Here is one of the stupidest gimmicks any company has ever tried in an effort to beg a free ride from sport. An American finance company has tied its mortgage rates to the performance of the local basketball team. Amerifund promised to drop the rate of interest by one "basis point" — that is, 0.01 per cent — for every consecutive home win by Orlando Magic. Since that rash announcement, the Magic have been on a roll, reeling off 18 consecutive home wins. The success has already cost Amerifund $100,000 (about £65,000). "This thing has gotten away from us," Greg Warren, fund superviser, said. "Thank God we can spread the cost over the years."

Tough mothers

Los Angeles Condors. Texas Roughriders. San Francisco Clippers. Philadelphia Freedom. Washington Diplomats. New York Bears. Boston Minutemen. And easily my favourite, the Portland Tough Mothers. These are, yes, American rugby league teams. There is a plot afoot to take the better form of rugby to the United States, and there is a recruiting drive in this country for players. Pay your own air fare, get looked after once you arrive. It all kicks off with a full-blooded international in Washington — United States v Ireland.

☐ *Is this the ultimate ghastliness? Arnold Palmer is starting a 24-hour cable television network, devoted entirely to the "sport" of golf. Start-up costs are $80 million. It sounds Danteesque.*

A free hand

Here is the greatest news that any thinking football person could possibly hope to hear: Rene Higuita is free. The rambling madman of a goalie from Colombia, imprisoned for acting as an intermediary in a kidnapping case, is back in the world again. He is likely to regain his place in the national team for the *Copa America* matches.

Insider dealing

Meanwhile, the inmates of Los Angeles County Jail are still revelling in the pleasures of having the great O. J. Simpson in their midst. It is not mere celeb snobbery, with the football star and alleged double murderer among them. Having O. J. around has seriously improved living conditions. O. J. has complained bitterly about his treatment. His mattress was too hard; his food was cold; he had no privacy; he didn't get enough fresh air. It was like being in prison. Now the jail has been ordered to give him a hot meal in the evening, a privilege extended to the other prisoners. A private room has been made available for O. J to receive visitors; it is available to all the rest as well. And suddenly there is much more scope for exercise. Faith in O. J. continues to move mountains.

Spotlight falls on United's manager and his £7 million man in Premiership showdown

Ferguson faces his moment of truth at Old Trafford

DAVID MILLER
Weekend View

So much of the attention and hyperbole surrounding football nowadays is focused upon managers rather than players. There has been more talk about whether Kevin Keegan was right to sell Andy Cole, or Alex Ferguson wrong to buy him, for £7 million, than about the *player himself. Cole* may put the argument more into perspective with his first appearance tomorrow for Manchester United against Blackburn Rovers, the FA Carling Premiership leaders, at Old Trafford.

Seldom has a *single* fixture, only two-thirds of the way *through a season,* held such attraction or such significance. *To say that the championship* hangs upon tomorrow's result *is, for once, barely an exagger*ation. None can forecast the extent to which Cole will be able to meet the challenge of the *responsibility* and expectation placed upon him.

Keegan may well have been the smarter of the two managers involved in this exorbitant transfer. On the other hand, were Cole to score the goals, tomorrow and in the following weeks, that enabled United to emulate the feat of Huddersfield Town, and Arsenal, both under Herbert Chapman, and Liverpool, in the Eighties, by winning three consecutive titles, the fee would be justified.

Yet it must be asked why George Graham, no mean judge, released Cole from Highbury; why Terry Venables has not as yet selected Cole for England; and why Keegan, whatever the fee, was willing to let Cole depart, given Newcastle United's long sequence of treachery towards supporters by selling their best players. The answer may be found at the Football Association's national school of excellence at Lilleshall.

When Cole was an elite apprentice, from Nottingham, he had difficulty in responding to the technical advice of Dave Sexton, the resident Lilleshall coach. At school in Nottingham, Cole had been regarded as "difficult", occasionally rebellious, though, at Lilleshall he was always smartly dressed, well behaved and cooperative, even if he did regularly miss the train connections when returning from weekends at home.

Yet his apparent incomprehension of tactical subtleties still seemed to linger, at times, with Newcastle, especially during lean spells. There is reason, therefore, to suppose that Ferguson may have taken one gamble too far, that his belief in Eric Cantona releasing in Cole what he did in Mark Hughes may be an overestimation. We shall see.

> 'It must be hoped Cole can handle himself on and off the field'

The burden of realisation lies as heavily on Cole as on his new manager. It might seem a welcome promotion to be paid £7,000 per week, but it should be remembered what happened to George Best and Paul Merson when they had to handle such rewards and demands. It must be hoped that Cole can handle himself on and off the field and he will need some help in both spheres.

Ferguson, since the days he led Aberdeen to international success, has long shown an instinct for understanding players — with a notable blind spot in the exclusion of Alan Hansen from Scotland's World Cup squad in 1986. Cole is clearly a subjective rather than intellectual player and it will require extreme managerial skills to integrate him into the United team at short notice. With two successive failures in Europe and Hughes bordering on decline, Ferguson needed to do something swift and spectacular, but this step is mightily risky, even with United's vast funds.

Ferguson follows a long Old Trafford tradition, begun by Matt Busby in the Fifties with the acquisition of Gregg, Taylor and Berry for the then huge fees of between £25,000 and £30,000, for putting the club's profits on the field for public pleasure. This is a manager's beauty, subsequently upheld by Tommy Docherty, Sexton, Ron Atkinson and Ferguson. Yet mere spending does not necessary make for successful management, as Docherty, Sexton and Atkinson discovered.

The real manager of this season may well prove to be Bryan Robson, with Middlesbrough, or Barry Fry, with Birmingham City, rather than Ferguson or Kenny Dalglish with their huge budgets. It has been said that Dalglish has not been given his due for Blackburn's present position, but when you can call upon £8.5 million from Jack Walker's private windfall to buy Alan Shearer and Chris Sutton, you do have an edge over your rivals that has little to do with man management. The greatest manager of modern times, relating management to spending, was Jock Stein with all-Scottish Celtic.

It is for this reason that Keegan may, in the long term, have been correct in his decision and Wednesday's FA Cup replay victory at Blackburn was certainly a start to proving his point.

Dalglish has his captain, Tim Sherwood, returning tomorrow following a two-match suspension, but is likely still to be without Stuart Ripley on the right flank of midfield. Ripley's absence conspicuously affected Blackburn's performance in their FA Cup defeat by Newcastle on Wednesday night.

"We could never have imagined going to Old Trafford having played a game less and with a five-point lead — not a bad platform to start from," Dalglish said. He expressed concern, justifiably enough, about a level performance from the referee under crowd pressure.

Ferguson, who has Paul Ince returning in midfield for the first time since Boxing Day, was gung-ho: "Our attitude is that we have to win," he said, all too obviously. "Blackburn will be aware of that. It will be a battle and that suits them because they are used to battling. They will know a draw is a great result for them. It's [the title] a two-horse race and would need a mammoth run from anyone in the pack below us to overhaul Blackburn."

PAUL SANDERS

Cole enjoys the calm before the storm, training with United at Old Trafford

Berg provides right support for Blackburn

By Peter Ball

MANCHESTER United are the best-supported English club in Scandinavia, but in Norway, where English football dominates the television screens and is more popular than the domestic game, Blackburn Rovers are catching them up fast.

The reason is Blackburn's slim, blond right back, Henning Berg, one of the unsung heroes — at least in England — of Blackburn's rise to the top of the FA Carling Premiership over the past two seasons. In Norway, where several newspapers now have a reporter based in England to cover the English game, he is a big name.

With more than 40 goals between them, Alan Shearer and Chris Sutton have dominated the headlines this season, but Blackburn's success has also been based on some excellent defenders, as Kenny Dalglish is fond of pointing out.

Berg has played an important part. While *his full back* partner, the competitive Graeme *Le Saux*, and the big, centre half, the flamboyant Colin *Hendry*, get *what little* attention there is for the defenders, Berg is a model of quiet excellence.

He did not make an immediate impact when he arrived in Blackburn from Lilleström as a central defender, at first struggling to find his feet in English football. Although, under Egil Olsen, Norway have played an English-style game, in Norwegian club football, the approach was slower.

"I needed a few months when I first came, being left out gave me a chance to look at the game and see what was required," he said. "English football is so fast. If you don't have a good first touch, you struggle."

The move to right back undoubtedly helped. "I like playing right back for Blackburn because it means I'm more involved in the build-ups, but, for Norway, the centre half is more involved, so I like playing there for my country."

With Olsen and Dalglish as his managers, Berg could hardly wish for better mentors, although he said "the trouble with having Kenny as manager is that if you say 'it's not possible to get a ball in from there,' he just comes and does it to show you that it is possible".

Berg though does not need showing too many things these days. According to Harford, Dalglish's assistant manager, "he is the best right back in the country — he's certainly as good as any".

Berg took that compliment in his stride: "If you aren't in the top two or three players in your position, you wouldn't play for Blackburn," he said. "Graeme Le Saux is probably the best left back in the Premiership. Colin Hendry is one of the best centre halves. You can go right through the team and say the same.

"We have a very good goalkeeper, a very good back four, but we also have a very good *midfield* who work to help us defend. The workrate of our wingers all over the pitch is second to none. Even our centre forward works tracking down opponents. We have all 11 *defending*."

At least Blackburn hope they will have 11 today. In the clubs' first meeting this season at Ewood Park, Berg was sent off for bringing down Andrei Kanchelskis with Blackburn leading 1-0 and in control. The decision struck some neutrals and all of Blackburn as harsh. T-shirts bearing the description of tomorrow's game as the "Gerald Ashby Testimonial match," surfaced this week in east Lancashire.

Berg still insists that Ashby made a mistake, but he is philosophical about it: "Ever since football started, it has been the case that refereeing decisions can change games. I was unfortunate in the last game, but it happened to loads of players before me and it is going to happen to loads of players after me," he said. "Gerald Ashby isn't refereeing tomorrow and I'm happy."

CRICKET

JOHANNESBURG:
Inaugural Test match

SOUTH AFRICA: First Innings

G Kirsten c Sohail b Kabir	62
P J R Steyn c Moin b Wasim	1
J B Commins b Aqib	13
D J Cullinan c Moin b Aqib	0
*W J Cronje c Mujtaba b Kabir	41
J N Rhodes c Inzamam b Nazir	72
B M McMillan c Moin b Aqib	113
†D J Richardson b Nazir	9
C E Eksteen c Moin b Wasim	18
P S de Villiers not out	66
A A Donald c Inzamam b Sohail	15
Extras (b 4, lb 18, w 6, nb 36)	64
Total	460

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-55, 3-59, 4-138, 5-168, 6-325, 7-325, 8-367, 9-389.

BOWLING: Wasim 38-11-113-2; Aqib 29.4-6-102-3; Kabir 19.1-4-60-2; Nazir 13.1-1-67-2; Sohail 14.2-2-47-1; Salim 8-0-49-0.

PAKISTAN: First Innings

Aamir Sohail c Richardson b de Villiers	23
Saeed Anwar c Cullinan b de Villiers	2
Asif Mujtaba c Richardson b de Villiers	0
*Salim Malik not out	86
Ijaz Ahmed b de Villiers	19
Inzamam-ul-Haq b McMillan	19
†Moin Khan c de Villiers b McMillan	9
Wasim Akram not out	10
Extras (lb 1, nb 8)	9
Total (6 wkts)	177

Kabir Khan, Aqib Javed and Aamir Nazir to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-20, 2-20, 3-44, 4-108, 5-134, 6-158.

BOWLING: Donald 11-2-40-0; de Villiers 15-3-55-4; McMillan 12-3-46-2; Eksteen 7-1-16-0; Cronje 9-5-19-0.

Umpires: M J Kitchen (England) and C Mitchley (South Africa).

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Hobart: New South Wales 298-3 (S Waugh 158 not out, M Bevan 70) v Tasmania. Brisbane: Western Australia 178-9 v Queensland.

BADMINTON

SEOUL: Open tournament: Men: Semi-final: H Arbie (Indo) bt P-E H Larsen (Den) 15-0, 15-6; F Permadi (Taipei) bt Hendrawan (Indo) 15-18, 15-5, 15-7.
Women: Quarter-final: S Susanti (Indo) bt C Martin (Den) 11-6, 11-3; Ra Kyung Min (S Kor) bt C Magnusson (Swe) 12-10, 11-6; Lim Xiao Qing (Swe) bt Han Jingna (China) 11-5, 10-12, 12-10; Bang Soo Hyun (S Kor) bt Mia Audina (Indo) 11-9, 11-2.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): New York 93 Houston 77; Seattle 102 Minnesota 87; Milwaukee 120 Washington 115; Phoenix 122 Portland 115; Sacramento 112 Golden State 103.
EUROPEAN CHAMPION CLUBS' CUP: Group A: Maccabi Tel Aviv 92 Panathinaikos (Gr) 91 (OT). Group B: Efes Pilsen (Tur) 61 Joventut Badalona (Sp) 46; Olimpija Ljubljana (Slovenia) 64 Benfica (Por) 56; Barcelona 75 Bayer Leverkusen (Ger) 64; Bologna (It) 74 Limoges (Fr) 59; Cibona Zagreb (Cro) 60 Olympiakos (Gr) 69.

BOWLS

YETTON TROPHY (women's inter-club championship): Zone finals: Cumbria 77 Thornaby 66; Swinton 96 Hull 61; Boston 74 *Leicester 69; March 87 St Neots 54;* Gallow 68 Beccles 69; Towerlands 77 Falcon 73; Tye Green 98 Picketts Lock 66; *Desborough 58* Riversin 90; Rugby 73 Malvern Hills 76; King George 64 Croydon 96; Camberley 63 Egham 107; Prince Arthur 88 *Dartford* Stone Lodge 68; Falaise 85 Adur 69; Arun 87 East Dorset 73; Bristol 79 British Cellophane 88; Exonia 79 Plymouth *Civil Service 81.*

GOLF

DUBAI: Desert Classic: Leading second-round totals (GB and Ireland unless stated): *131: C Montgomerie* 68, 63. 134: F Couples (US) 65, 69; G Norman (Aus) 64, 70. 135: H Clark 68, 67; N Price (Zimb) 66, 69. 136: R *Burns 67, 69;* S Cage 68, 68; P Fulke (Swe) 70, 66; E Els (SA) 68, 68. 137: E O'Connell 67, 70; R Goosen (SA) 68, 68; S *Tinning (Den)* 67, 70. 138: S Bottomley 71, 67; S Richardson 69, 69; W Riley (Aus) 67, 71; M James 71, 67; B Langer (Ger) 70, 68; P Walton 69, *69; P Linhart* (Sp) 71, 67. 139: C Rocca (It) 70, 69; M Lanner (Swe) 70, 69; D Clarke 71, 68; P Curry 69, 70. 140: D *Gilford* 70, 70; R Willison 69, 71; A Cejka (Ger) 69, 71; P Baker 67, 73; G J Brand 67, 73; J Townsend (US) 71, 69; A Oldcorn 70, *70; S Struver (Ger)* 70, 70; A Sherborne 73, 67; P McGinley 72, 68; M Mouland 72, 68; M Campbell (NZ) 69, 71; G Levenson (SA) 72, 68. 141: *P Moloney (Aus)* 71, 70; P Eales 71, 70; J Van de Velde (Fr) 71, 70; M Davis 71, 70; S McAllister 71, 70; J Sandelin (Swe) 72, 69; K Eriksson (Swe) 69, 72; W Westner (SA) 71, 70; A Murray 70, 71; S Gimson (Sing) 69 72. 142: R Boxall 69, 73; D Carter 70, 72; C Cassells 68, 74; T Watanabe (Japan) 73, 69; P Hedblom (Swe) 69, 73; C Mason 71, 71; R McFarlane 71, 71; S Ames (Tri) 70, 72; M Mackenzie 69, 73; S Watson 71, 71; M Besanceney (Fr) 69, 73.
TUCSON, Arizona: Northern Telecom Open (US unless stated): Leading first-round scores: 65: P Mickelson, T Purtzer. 66: H Twitty. 67: P Goydos, D Hammond, J D Blake, L Wadkins, P Stankowski, J Carter. 68: N Ozaki (Japan), R Cochran, D Foreman, C Beck, W Austin, R Mediate, B Henninger, B Ogle (Aus), R Fehr, J Gallagher, M Wiebe, P Jordan, M Brooks, J Maggert, D Duval. British: 70: N Faldo. 81: D Feherty.

RUGBY UNION

BALGRAY, Glasgow: Scotland A 9 France A 13.
DONNEYBROOK, Dublin: Ireland A 20 England A 21.
CLUB MATCHES: St Mary's College 54 Fylde 7. Cancelled: Abercynon v Glifach Goch; Abertillery v Glamorgan Wanderers; Carmarthen Quins v Narberth; Pontypool Utd v Ebbw Vale; Pontypridd v Cross Keys; South Wales Police v Tredegar; Treorchy v Cheltenham; Tenby Utd v Llanelli; Whitland v Llandovery.

HOCKEY

CRYSTAL PALACE: National indoor club championships: Pool A: Old Loughtonians 8 Hull 5; Hull 3 East Grinstead 4. Pool B: Barford Tigers 9 Stourport 7.

SHOOTING

TRENTHAM, New Zealand: Wellington *Rifle Association* Championships: Ormonde Shield (Club teams of 4): 1, London and Middlesex 768.77 (J Langley 198.79; D Calvert 198.16; G Barnes 192.25; A. Tucker 188.17); 2, Surrey 759.58 (W Richards 194.22); 3, Bloemfontein 759.56; 4, North London Blue 757.74 (N Hinchliffe 192.20); 5, Old Epsomians 753.80 (P Kent 192.16); 7, North London White (D Coleman and J Messer 191.19).
Overall individual championship (300, 600, 800 and 900 yds): 1, R Chilcott (NZ) 199.17; 2, A Van Niekirk (SA) 196.16; 3, K Hille (Aus) 195.14; 4, W. Richards (GB) 194.13. Short-range aggregate: 1, Cole*man* 99.10. Long-range aggregate: 1, Chilcott 99.12; 2, Langley 99.11. Grade B short-range aggregate: 1, P Patel (London *University*) 94.11.

SKIING

WENGEN, Switzerland: World Cup: Men's downhill: 1, K Ghedina (It) 2min 25.33sec; 2, P Rzehak (Austria) 2:27.18; 3, H Trinkl (Austria) 2:27.53; 4, A Skaardal (Nor) 2:27.73; 5, A Assinger (Austria) 2:27.90; 6, J Strobl (Austria) 2:27.96; equal 7, X Gigandet (Switz), L Alphand (Fr) 2:28.07; 9, W Perathoner (It) 2:28.10; 10, K Rasmussen (US) 2:28.11. British placings: 32, G Bell 2:29.46; 48, M Bell 2:30.34. Overall (after 18 *races*): 1, A Tomba *(It) 850;* 2, G Mader (Austria) 482; 3, J Kosir (Slovenia) 430; 4, Alphand 428; 5, M Girardelli (Lux) 404. Downhill (After 5 races): 1, Alphand 352; 2, P Ortlieb (Austria) 248; 3, Assinger 239.
CORTINA D'AMPEZZO, Italy: World Cup: Women's downhill: 1, M Gerg-Leitner (Ger) 1min 25.82sec; 2, P Street (US) 1:25.84; 3, K Seizinger (Ger) 1:26.08; 4 I Kostner (It) 1:26.15; 5 R Goetschl (Aus) 1:26.19; equal 6, H Lindh (US), N Bouvier (Fr) 1:26.29; 8, A *Meissnitzer (Austria)* 1:26.39; 9, *B Perez (It)* 1:26.41; 10, C Bournissen (Switz) 1:26.50. Overall (after 17 races): 1, Seizinger 708 *pts; 2, H Zeller-Baehler (Switz) 677; 3,* V Schneider (Switz) 582; 4, M Ertl (Ger) 480; 5, P Street (US) 405. Downhill (after 4 *races*): 1, *Lindh 320;* 2, Street 209; 3, Seizinger 206.

SNOOKER

BLACKPOOL: Embassy World Championship final qualifying round (best of 19 frames): S Mazrocis (Eng) leads *M Bennett (Wales) 5-4;* N Foulds (Eng) leads *P Cavney* (Eng) 5-4; D Harold (Eng) leads D Finbow (Eng) 6-3; A Davies (Wales) leads D Taylor (N Ire) 8-1; *B Morgan (Eng)* leads T Chappel (Wales) 9-0; N Gilbert (Eng) leads S James (Eng) 5-4; B Snaddon (Scot) leads D Mountjoy (Wales) 7-2; P Francisco (SA) leads M Price (Eng) 5-4; G Wilkinson (Eng) leads B Pinches (Eng) 7-2; A Robidoux (Can) leads J Woodman (Eng) 8-1; S Lee (Eng) leads T Knowles (Eng) 5-3; J Ferguson (Eng) leads J Higgins (Scot) 5-4; M Davis (Eng) leads O O'Kane (NZ) 7-2; R Lawler (Eng) leads D Reynolds (Eng) 7-2; T Pichit (Thai) leads M Hallett (Eng) 5-4; M Clark (Eng) leads A Hicks (Eng) 6-5.

	Depth (cm) L	U	Piste	Conditions Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
ANDORRA								
Soldeu	50	90	good	heavy	fair	cloud	0	18/1
(Good skiing, especially on upper runs; snow forecast)								
AUSTRIA								
Mayrhofen	40	110	good	varied	fair	cloud	0	19/1
(Good snow and skiing on most pistes; odd worn patch)								
Schladming	70	130	good	varied	fair	fair	-2	19/1
(Pistes excellent at mid and upper levels; icy low down)								
FRANCE								
Alpe d'Huez	80	230	good	powder	good	cloud	0	19/1
(Excellent piste skiing; snow forecast)								
Avoriaz	110	180	good	powder	good	snow	-3	20/1
(Superb skiing on well-prepared, deserted pistes)								
Courchevel	95	185	good	varied	fair	cloud	-3	19/1
(All runs open; no queues; good skiing)								
Megève	85	165	good	varied	good	cloud	0	18/1
(Good piste skiing, snow quite slow because of mild weather)								
Val d'Isère	90	220	good	varied	fair	föhn	0	18/1
(Heavier conditions because of föhn winds)								
ITALY								
Cervinia	80	250	good	varied	worn	cloud	-3	20/1
(Pistes conditions remain good; all runs complete)								
SWITZERLAND								
C Montana	205	250	good	crust	good	cloud	-5	19/1
(Good skiing on firmly-packed snow; some icy patches)								
Verbier	45	300	good	powder	good	cloud	3	19/1
(Generally excellent skiing; a few rocks on home runs)								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L – lower slopes; U – upper; art – artificial.

Wakefield prosper as speed increases

By Christopher Irvine

THE theory that rugby league is a stop-start game has been buried under the weight of evidence produced by the new quickening up of the game. Highly-competitive matches of 50 and more points have become the rule rather than the exception.

With any interference at the play-the-ball no longer tolerated, speed is of the essence as play has opened up. Some sides are thriving and others struggling in the consequent rush as their defensive patterns disintegrate.

Stamina, especially in defence, has become a key to winning. Among the lower clubs in the first division of the *Stones Bitter Championship,* the change has been pronounced. Successive wins by Wakefield and Workington, who have adopted an American football-style fitness regime under a former Green Bay Packers trainer, contrasts with continuing slumps at Featherstone and Hull.

It will be interesting at Featherstone tomorrow to see if Doncaster can start where they left off in pulling back an 18-point deficit to overhaul Hull — a 42-38 win described by John Sheridan, Doncaster's stalwart football manager, as the most amazing he had seen.

Having cleaned up the play-the-ball, there was another welcome edict *yesterday by* Greg McCallum, the referees' coaching director, who reminded officials to take action against the increasing number of dangerous "throw" tackles — the sort of unsavoury incident captured on television last Saturday, when Anthony Singleton, of Widnes, was lifted by two Warrington players and carried 15 yards before being dumped to the ground.

After being drafted out of retirement by the London Broncos last week because of injuries, John Gallagher, the *former New Zealand* rugby union full back, will make a *second comeback appearance* in the Silk Cut Challenge Cup *third-round* tie *against* the Cumbrian amateur side, *Ellenborough,* tomorrow.

28 of the people at Murrayfield today travelled 4000 miles to get there.

2 of them are firefighters.

1 collects rubbish.

2 of them are carpenters.

2 are hookers.

But they look like ordinary rugby players.

And this looks like ordinary whisky.

هكذا من الأصل

TENNIS 41
STICH BLOWN
AWAY IN
STRAIGHT SETS

SPORT

PORTRAIT 42
TOMBA AWAITS
CORONATION AS
MOUNTAIN KING

SATURDAY JANUARY 21 1995

'The World Cup is the dream at the end of the rugby tunnel. These are steps along the way'

Curtain up on five months of drama

David Hands, rugby correspondent, says the coming campaign, culminating at the World *Cup final in June, will change the game forever*

THE five nations' championship begins today a tidal wave of international rugby union that will not cease until the *final whistle has been blown* on the World Cup late in June. When the players eventually rest, the game will have crossed another watershed in competitive, administrative and commercial terms.

The calendar is remorseless, emphasised by the fact that, today, all five countries are engaged: while Ireland meet England in Dublin and *France entertain* Wales in Paris, Scotland take on Canada at Murrayfield. That raises *two intriguing questions* about the breadth and image of the championship.

FIVE NATIONS' CHAMPIONSHIP

Photograph 1
Catt eyes Dublin rain 38
Wales dream in Paris 39

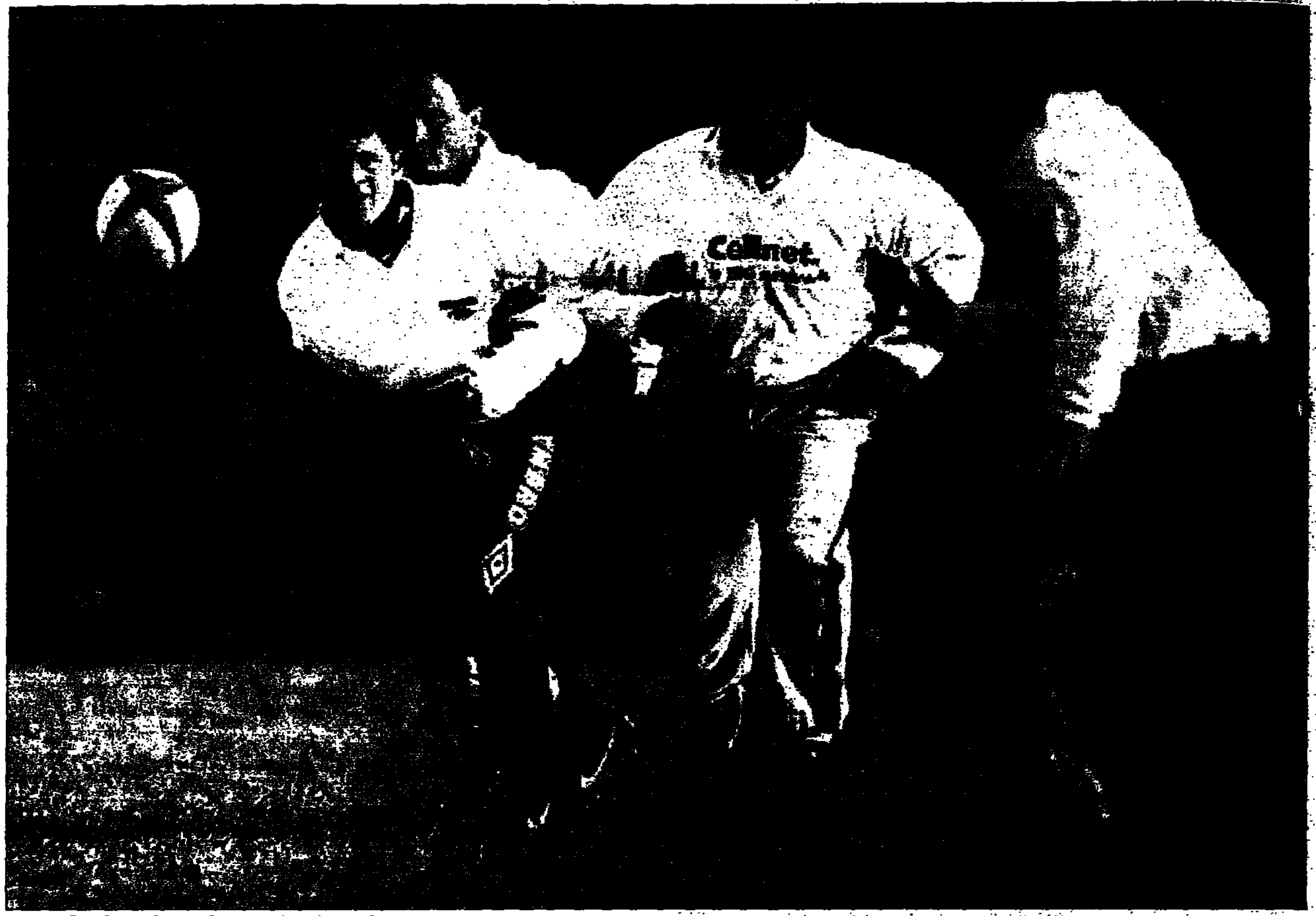
Canada, indeed, would love to be regular participants in the competition, and have the results to back their claim. But the five nations committee has been here before, most recently two years ago when a programme giving Romania and Italy two matches a season *against the five nations* was vetoed in favour of one each per season.

Outsiders will criticise the committee for being so introverted while insiders cherish what they have — a tournament of *immense historical*, social and sporting value that they do not choose readily to dilute. At the same time, a working party is trying to establish ways of reducing the pressure on players which, *since it embraces Tom* Kiernan and Syd Millar from Ireland, Geoff Evans, of Wales, Andy Ripley, of England, and Jim Telfer, of Scotland, *can hardly* be accused of not covering most strata in the five nations' game.

To introduce a sixth party, or even a two-tier championship, would not help their brief. At the same time, the *voracious jaws of television*, the image makers, are closing about rugby. When the last domestic contract was negotiated, television tried to get away from the present system of two matches in one afternoon, *seeking* one match on Saturday the other on Sunday, and were turned down.

Thus, today, for example, Ireland's game will be shown *throughout most of the United* Kingdom, Wales will see their players in Paris and both will see substantial highlights of the other game. The Scotland match, being a non-championship affair, comes lower down *the scale, but their hierarchy* resisted the suggestion that they should play on Sunday. How long the game's governing bodies will be able to hold *out for current practice*, which has held sway since 1974, remains to be seen but, when the television contract comes up for renewal, resistance may be difficult.

The introduction of red and yellow *disciplinary* cards notwithstanding, this year's championship will unfold differently from any other because of the significance of *what lies beyond in South* Africa. What of 1987, you may say, when there was a midsummer World Cup too? It was a different game then and all too few knew the nature of the journey that lay before *them. The shape of the game* and the approach of those who play it has changed, moulded by the external pressures to which rugby is now exposed.


Bracken, Moore, Ubogu and Andrew, of England, preparing yesterday to meet Ireland this afternoon at Lansdowne Road. Photograph: Martin McCullough

In eight short years, the World Cup has cast a mighty shadow over all rugby-playing nations so that, while the *championship in the northern* hemisphere retains an integrity of its own, coaches and players must see it building into the greater competi*tion. It is unavoidable*, even though the playing conditions and tournament lineage differ so greatly: hence the reason for Scotland and Ireland arranging additional *matches to fill the hiatus* between the end of this championship and the start of the World Cup, and the flurry of short tours *being made to the southern* hemisphere in April and May.

Jack Rowell, the England manager, said: "The five nations' championship is the envy of the rest of the rugby-playing world, but this year *you have to look at it in the* context of the World Cup."

Will Carling, the captain, said: "The World Cup is the dream at the end of the tunnel. These [the five nations matches] are steps along the way that we have to negotiate. During the 80 minutes of each *game you hope to be success*ful and what comes after is irrelevant. But, afterwards, you sit down and quantify what you have done in rela*tion to the World Cup*."

'England remember that losing to Ireland cost a *grand slam*'

— Rob Andrew, page 38

So, whatever traditionalists believe of the five nations, in the minds of those at the sharp end it is subservient to the World Cup — at least, when the two tournaments coincide *every four years, and probably* for longer periods than that. How quickly we have dropped into the four-year time-span familiar to footballers and athletes, how easy it becomes for players to plan their careers around *successive* world cups.

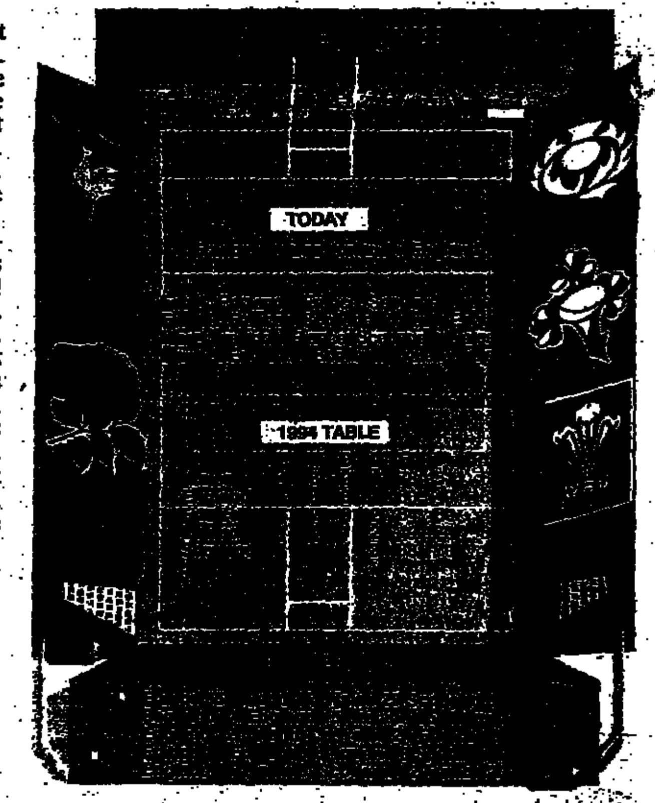
Yet *there is a fascination* about the five nations that endures. This is the 66th such championship (France did not play all four home *unions until 1910, they* were expelled in 1932 and re-entered after the Second World War, while the 1972 championship was not completed because of security con*ditions in Ireland*).

England and Wales have each won outright 15 times and shared the title — a feat now no longer *possible — six and eight times* respectively. France, who only found success after the war, have won ten outright titles and shared eight; Ireland six and five, Scotland four and six.

That England, with their vast playing population, have won so many is no surprise. Indeed, it is *disappointing* that they have not won more. France, possessing the same playing *strength*, have made substantial headway and *that* Wales have been so *successful* is a tribute to the grip an English public school game has taken on their culture.

Since a championship trophy was created two seasons ago, *France, in 1993, and* Wales have been the winners. You would think that Wales, therefore, were there to be shot at this season but, for reasons connected with history and their invention of the game's *modern form, it is* England who are the perennial Aunt Sally. So, at Lansdowne Road and Parc des Princes, let battle commence.

☐ *England are the bookmakers'* favourites to lift the five nations' championship. William Hill, Ladbroke and Corals all believe Will Carling's team will take the title — and England are also seen as the *best bet to land a triple crown* and grand slam. France are unanimous second favourites.



TODAY
1994 TABLE

Leeds look ahead to Yeboah's input

By Russell Kempson

HOWARD WILKINSON, though *keen to inject fresh life* into his goal-shy Leeds United attack, has erred on the side of caution for the FA Carling Premiership match at Leicester City today. Anthony Yeboah, Wilkinson's £3.4 mil*lion acquisition from Ein*tracht Frankfurt on Thursday, will have to wait a *little* longer before making his bow, probably in the game against Queens Park Rangers at Elland Road on Tuesday.

Yeboah, 30, was not due to arrive in England until last *night* and, as a *result of his* recent dispute with the Frankfurt *hierarchy*, he has not played for a month. Wilkinson, the Leeds manager, originally included the Ghana forward in his squad but later *withdrew him, even though* his side has scored only 29 goals in *23 Premiership* matches and registered none in their last four outings.

Wilkinson will be hoping for an immediate impact from Yeboah, *with the Leeds* supporters having grown increasingly restless, but the *mounting pressure in West* Yorkshire bears no relation to that being endured by George Graham in north London. Arsenal's 2-0 defeat against Millwall on Wednesday, in an FA Cup third-round re*play, re-emphasised the doom* and gloom felt by all and sundry at Highbury.

However, Graham, the longest-serving manager in the Premiership, is *not ready* to relinquish his 8½-year grip. "We've *had eight years* of success and six bad months — that's it in a nutshell," he said. "Whether people accept it like that is up to them."

Frank Clark, the Nottingham Forest manager, has no *such worries. Although tak*ing over the most unenviable *job in football in June 1993*, when he succeeded Brian Clough at the City Ground, he has since led Forest to the runners-up slot in the Endsleigh Insurance League first division. After temporar*ily leading the Premiership in* August, they now lie fourth.

Clark's reward is a 3½-year contract, which he signed yesterday, although he still had 18 months of his previous agreement left to run. Never *one to crow about his achieve*ments, he said simply: "I hope the new contract is an indication that the chairman and his board are pleased with the job that's been done."

Steve Nicol, the Scotland and *Liverpool* defender, tried to jump aboard the managerial bandwagon last month but *was beaten to the vacancy* at Swindon Town by Steve Mc*Mahon, his former* team-mate at Anfield. Yesterday, he settled for *next* best when he was given a free transfer, after 13 years at Liverpool, and joined Notts County, *the bottom side* in the first division, as player-coach.

Weekend View, page 43
Berg's task, page 43

Montgomerie warms to task

From John Hopkins, golf correspondent, in Dubai

BIG men do not thrive in the desert. Big men find the heat *too* difficult to deal with. Big men perspire too much. These and other *axioms* are perceived wisdom in golf. Yesterday, Colin Montgomerie, a man with a good name for a desert campaign, gave perceived wisdom short shrift when he went round the *Emirates course here in 63*, nine under par, to leap into the *lead after the second round* of the Dubai Desert Classic.

Montgomerie, who is said to be 6ft 1in and 15 stone although he may be taller and heavier, is 13 under par. The Scot has always marched to *the beat of his own drum*. Now, equipped with new clubs, *he is* like a dog with two tails. He is, above all else, a competitor, and it is not surprising that he should have produced a round such as this *when he saw how much* attention was being focused on Greg Norman, Nick *Price*, Fred Couples and Ernie Els.

Montgomerie's 63 put him *three strokes* ahead of Norman and Couples, who had rounds of 70 and 69 respectively, and four in front of Price, who recorded 69, and Howard Clark, *who had a 67*.

Montgomerie's clubs are oversize, as are so many *contemporary* tennis and squash rackets, and cavity-backed. They look *horrible*, like an attachment for a vacuum cleaner, and *Price* will not use them. "I'm a traditionalist," the Open champion said. These clubs are part of an increasing trend *away from wooden woods* and traditionally shaped, forged irons, towards metal woods and *irons that are said to be more forgiving* of a slightly *mishit shot*.

"These clubs are ugly," Couples said, "but they're going to get uglier. Manufacturers are making clubs that are easier to use, and if they are easier for a 20-handicap golfer to use, then *they are going to be easier for* a professional to use as well."

Montgomerie has had three 63s in competition in Europe before, but never a round that *contained ten birdies. The two* clubs that contributed most to this superb scoring, on a day when the wind was much stronger and the course more difficult than previously, were a Big Bertha driver and a Spalding putter, both of which he was using before he *changed his clubs at the end of* last year.

"*These* are the easiest clubs to hit with I have known," Montgomerie said. "It's as if I *have another club in my bag. I* am at least one club longer." The best example of this came on the 16th, where he faced a shot of 150 yards into the wind. "That would have been a six-iron with my old clubs," Montgomerie *said*. "With *my* new ones I hit a seven-iron to *one foot*."

Montgomerie birdied all three of the par-fives on the inward half, two of which were downwind and there for the taking. The 18th was more of a struggle, directly into the wind. Here, Montgomerie *hit* a sand wedge to 12 feet and *sank* the putt for his *fourth* successive birdie. He walked off with a smile.

These clubs may have helped Montgomerie to produce a *marvellous score, but* they are not solely responsible. The words of *Lee* Trevino come to mind, when he was talking about a recent development in clubs: "It ain't the arrows, it's the injun." Fur*thermore, Montgomerie has* been paid a huge sum to play with these clubs, which are made by Callaway, just as he was when he played with Wilson clubs.

Norman had no particular axe to grind, and he put Montgomerie's extra length down to something as simple as confidence. "*If you feel* you can hit the ball further, then you will," Norman said. "I have tried these oversize irons and I found I hit the ball about five *yards shorter than before*."

MIKE COOPER/ALLSPORT

Montgomerie on his way to a 63 and the halfway lead

Scores, page 43

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SHOPPING

Spoilt for choice at the Mall of America

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PLUS: Minneapolis break offer, page 7

TRAVEL

Family holidays filled with adventure

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PLUS: Ginny Dougary on St Martin, page 22

OFFERS

Win a ten-day trip to the Amazon

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PLUS: Eat out for only 20p, page 10

COLLECTING

Buy a superhero at Britain's biggest comic mart

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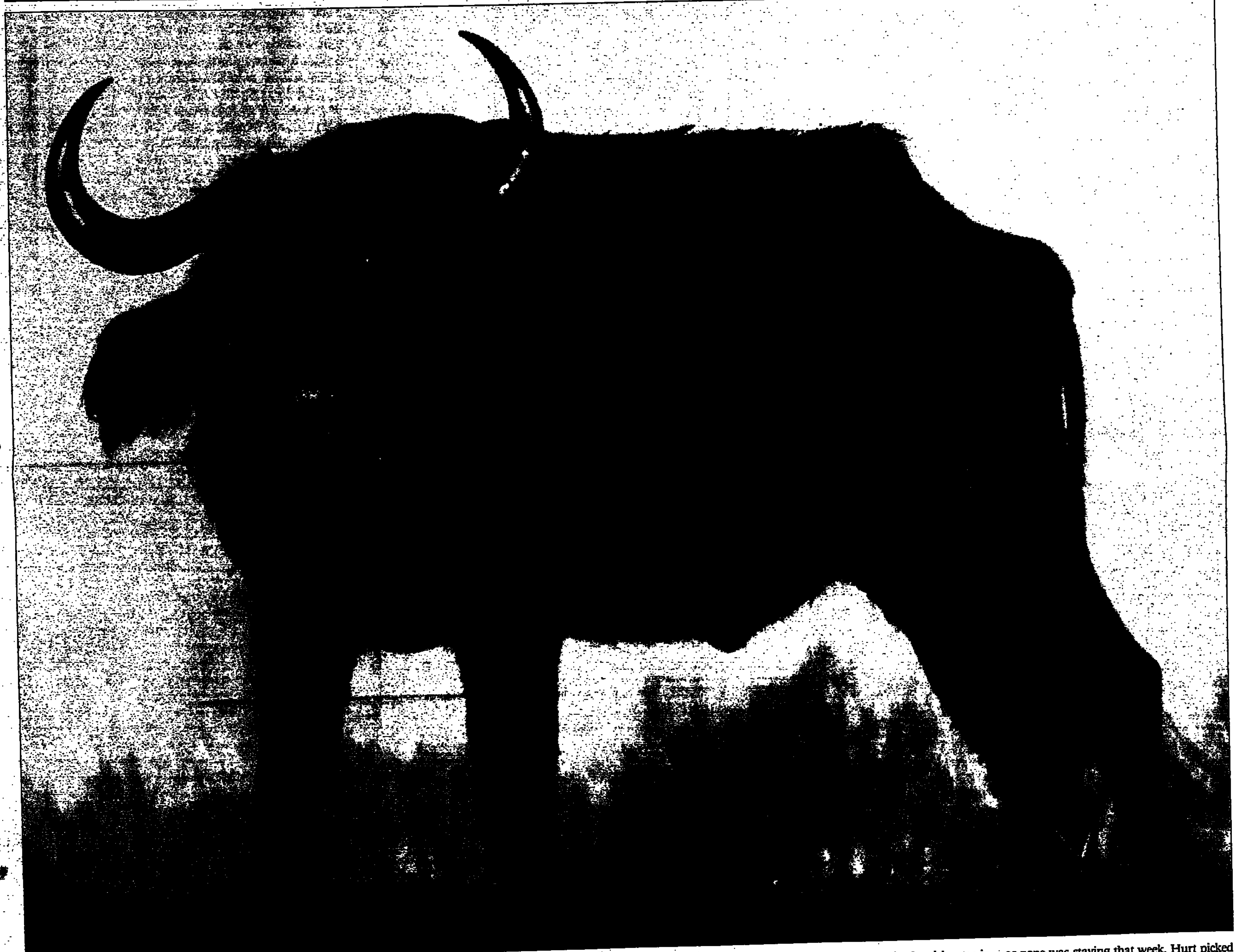
PLUS: Noah sails again, Books, page 14

WEEKEND



By Jonathan Young

Though we invented the safari, few British people hunt the "Big Five" game animals today. The black rhino is protected, and ivory is worn best by elephants. Neither of the great cats is protected — but they do not appeal to many UK hunters: leopards are usually shot at close range over baits, and a lion with a belly full of wildebeest can be an easy mark for a modern rifle. But the last of the Big Five, the buffalo, is another matter. He is abundant, good eating, and considered by most hunters to be the most dangerous game of all.

What makes the buffalo so formidable is his size — around a ton of bone and muscle — and his determination to settle accounts. A wounded bull will harness every drop of his life-force for one devastating charge. In theory he should be easy to stop because a modern big-game bullet delivers enormous energy. A .416-calibre Rigby round, for example, has a muzzle energy of 5,115 foot/pounds — enough to destroy a limousine's engine block and bring it to an abrupt halt. Couple this with the accuracy of a precision rifle and telescopic sight and the result would appear terminal. Not so.

Andrew Fraser, Lord Lovat's younger son, was one of many experienced shots fascinated by the challenge, which he lost last year when a buffalo charged from thick bush and killed him. Such fatalities are not rare. But the British keep retracing their imperial footsteps to Africa, often paying as much as £5,000 a head for a week's hunting.

Camps on safari, staffed by local people, provide a service that the Ritz would envy, as I discovered when I visited Robin Hurt, the professional hunter's professional hunter in East Africa. Lions were calling less than two miles away as I shaved into a mirror tacked on to the tent's canvas, the water for the showers heated to the perfect temperature. The white-jacketed steward remembered exactly my mix of whisky and water, and served salted popcorn, still warm from the fire, fragments of which were borne home in triumph by the lines of soldier ants returning from a raid on a termites' nest.

All supplies for the camp had to be flown or trucked in. Fresh meat was not included, as clients were relied on to supply the larder. But as none was staying that week, Hurt picked up a .375 Holland & Holland one morning and suggested we look for a buffalo.

It had to be a particular beast — an old bull (cow buffalo are shot only by mistake or in self-protection). We were looking for a buffalo who was so old that he would succumb to the lions, or starve as his teeth went, and so become a vulture's feast. These old bulls live alone — having grown increasingly cantankerous, they are thrown out of the herd by the younger bulls. To survive, they hole up in the

Continued on page 3, col 4

BEAT THE RUSH...

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CHOICE

Planning an evening out, or a day with your family? *The Times* critics select the best entertainment

ROCK

David Sinclair

SIOUXSIE & THE BANSHEES: With a highly respectable new album, *The Rapture*, in the shops this week the 37-year-old *grande dame* of punk and her moody henchmen embark on their most extensive British outing since 1988.
Wolverhampton Civic Hall (0902 312030), tonight; **Rock City**, Nottingham (0602 412544), tomorrow; **Town and Country**, Leeds (0532 442999), Monday 23: **Cardiff University** 🄱 (0222 387421), Wednesday 25: **Royal Court**, Liverpool 🄱 (051-709 4321), Thursday 26: **Barrowlands**, Glasgow (031-557 6969), Saturday 28: **Mayfair**, Newcastle (091-232 3109), Sunday 29: **Academy**, Manchester 🄱 (061-832 1111), Monday 30; **Guildhall**, Portsmouth (0705 824355). Feb 1: **Shepherds Bush Empire**, London W12 (081-740 7474), Feb 3: and at **Corn Exchange**, Cambridge (0223 357851), Feb 7; **UEA**, Norwich (0603 764764), Feb 8.

RICHARD THOMPSON: A *lengthy postscript to his superlative* electric band shows of last year, this acoustic tour finds England's greatest guitarist accompanied only by upright bass player Danny Thompson. The dates coincide with the release on February 6 of *Beat The Retreat*, a collection of Richard Thompson compositions recorded by other acts including R.E.M., Bonnie Raitt and David Byrne. Support is Richard Thompson's old colleague, Christine Collister.
Everyman Palace, Cork (010 3532 1501673), tonight; **Olympia**, Dublin 🄱 (010 3531 6777744), tomorrow; **Corn Exchange**, Cambridge 🄱 (0223 357851), Tuesday 24: **Playhouse**, Oxford 🄱 (0865 798600), Thursday 26; **Music Hall**, Aberdeen 🄱 (0224 641122). Saturday 28: **Festival Theatre**, Edinburgh 🄱 (031-529 6000). Sunday 29: **Charter Theatre**, Preston 🄱 (0772 258858). Monday 30; and at **Irish Centre**, Leeds (0132 480887). Feb 1: **City Hall Ballroom**, Sheffield (0742 735295). Feb 2: **St Georges Hall**, Bradford (0274 752000), Feb 3: **Warwick University** (0203 524524), Feb 4: **Royal Exchange**, Manchester (061-833 9833). Feb 5: **Little Theatre**, Middlesbrough (0642 611625). Feb 6: **Playhouse**, Newcastle (091-230 5151), Feb 7; and thereafter in London, Basingstoke, Reading, Brighton, Portsmouth, Cardiff, Bath, Swindon, Tavistock, Hayes, Croydon, and Nottingham.

CLASSICAL

Richard Morrison

RUSSIAN'S WAGNER: Valery Gergiev, the *brilliant young chief* conductor of the Kirov Opera in St Petersburg, has garnered remarkable acclaim for his interpretations of the Russian repertoire in *opera house and concert hall*. But Tuesday's concert is a greater test: an evening of Wagner extracts, as part of the Royal Philharmonic Maryinsky-Kirov series of concerts. Familiar excerpts from *Tännhauser*, *Tristan*, *The Flying Dutchman* and *The Ring* are all wheeled out, with the Russian soprano Galina Gorchakova singing the Liebestod and Brünnhilde's Immolation.
Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800), Tuesday 24, 7.30pm. 🄱

BORODIN'S 50TH: The oldest and, some would argue, perhaps the greatest string quartet in the world celebrates its 50th anniversary with Wigmore Hall concerts that are bound to be *highlights of the* London season. Technically, perhaps, the Borodin Quartet has lost some edge in recent years; emotionally and intellectually, the young Turks still cannot touch them. Tomorrow (7.30pm), with viola *virtuoso* Yuri Bashmet and cellist Mikhail Milman, they deliver Tchaikovsky's *Souvenir de Florence*, as well as Shostakovich's Quartets Nos 7 and 8 (probably the best of them). On Wednesday (8pm) the fare is Prokofiev, Beethoven and Schubert's Quintet in C with cellist Natalia Gutman.
Wigmore Hall, Wigmore St, London W1 (071-935 2141), Sunday 22, Wednesday 25. 🄱

The composer Richard Wagner

OPERA

Rodney Milnes

H[illegible]TTO: So it is Jonathan [illegible] in London. English the Premi[illegible] has announced the [illegible]

Purveyors of punk, Siouxsie & The Banshees are beginning their first British tour for seven years

Miller's "Little Italy" production of Verdi's opera at least twice before, *but here it is, back again. And why* not? Once thought so daring, after 13 years it has achieved near-classic status. Rosa Mannion, outstanding as the Countess in the ENO *Figaro*, *sings* Gilda, the Australian baritone Michael Lewis is the hunchback, and *David Rendall is the* "Duke". And watch out for sparky newcomer Sara Fulgoni as Maddalena. Guido Johannes Rumstadt conducts.
Coliseum, *St Martin's Lane*, London WC2 (071-836 3161), Monday 23, Friday 27, 7.30pm. 🄱

THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO: Figaro *here*, Figaro *there*, but Scottish Opera is fielding a fresh young cast for its new production by David Leveaux, whose *Turn of the Screw* for the company at the Tramway was one of last season's signal successes. Paul Whelan, so impressive in *ENO's Khovanshchina*, sings the title role, Claire Rutter is the Countess, Lisa Milne is Susanna, and Stephen Gadd the Count. Nicholas McGegan, Scot*tish Opera's associate music direc*tor, as proven a Mozartian as he is a Handelian, is in the pit. The company is using Jeremy Sams's translation, but not his title.
Theatre Royal, Hope St, Glasgow (041-332 9000), Tues 24, 7.15pm. 🄱

● *See the opera offer on page 32 of this week's Magazine.*

JAZZ

Clive Davis

MICHEL PETRUCCIANI/ DON GROLNICK: *Barely past* his 32nd birthday, Michel Petrucciani has already acquired the reputation of a grandmaster, a *piano virtuoso capable of giving* Keith Jarrett some competition. After a flirtation with an electric band, which proved both unsubtle and unproductive, he will be playing in a solo acoustic setting. On his latest release, *Conférence de Presse*, *recorded live in* a Paris club, he performs rugged duets with the Hammond organ veteran Eddy Louiss. Much better known as a session musician and producer, *Don Grolnick won thunderous* acclaim with two albums for Blue Note, *Weaver of Dreams* and *Nighttown*. The contents were mostly standard-issue neo-bop, but the abrasive presence of Michael Brecker (who is the most-copied of modern tenor players) helped to give the records a higher profile.
Petrucciani: City Hall, Glasgow (041-227 5511), tonight, 8pm; **Queen Elizabeth Hall**, *London SE1* 🄱 (071 928 8800), Monday 23, 7.45pm. **Grolnick: Turner Sims Concert Hall**, Southampton 🄱 (0703 595151), Tuesday 24, 8pm; **Corn Exchange**, Wheeler St, Cambridge 🄱 (0223 357851), Wednesday 25, 7.30pm; **Queen Elizabeth Hall**, London SE1 🄱 (071-928 8800), Thursday 26, 7.45pm; **Royal Northern College of Music**, 124 Oxford Road, Manchester 🄱 (061-273 4504), Friday 27, 7.45pm; **Phoenix Arts Centre**, Leicester 🄱 (0116 2554854), Saturday 28, 8pm; **Adrian Boult Hall**, Birmingham 🄱 (021-236 3889/2392), Sunday 29, 7.30pm.

DIGBY FAIRWEATHER: Here is a man of diverse talents: author, archivist, historian, educator and broadcaster. Fairweather has been so active as an all-round spokesman for British jazz that it is easy to lose sight of his skills as a sweet-toned cornet player. A late starter, *he did not turn professional until* 1977, and went on to work with the Midnite Follies Orchestra and a band devoted to celebrating the legacy of cornetist Alex Welsh. The group he brings into Soho this week will, as usual, carry the banner *for the swing-mainstream* tradition, but also features an unorthodox line-up of trombone, clarinet and cello.
Pizza Express, Dean St, London W1 *(071-439 8722), Thurs 26, 8pm.*

THEATRE

Benedict Nightingale

HAMLET: The Danish court may be coated and hatted like frog footmen in red velvet, but Peter Hall's production is strong where it matters: Donald Sinden's formidably *plummy Polonius*, Michael Pennington's agonised Claudius and, above all, Stephen Dillane's unruly, self-mocking Hamlet.
Gielgud, Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1 (071-494 5065), evenings at 7.15pm; matinées, Thursday and Saturday at 2pm. 🄱

THE DANCE OF DEATH: A mournful John Neville versus a sneering Gemma Jones in a marital battle that, *thanks to* Peter Stormare's sensitive direction, comes across as less melodramatic and more realistic than is usual with Strindberg on the English *stage*.
Almeida, Almeida Street, London N1 (071-359 4404), evenings, Monday to Saturday at 8pm; matinée, Saturdays at 4pm. 🄱

● *More theatre, page 6*

DANCE

John Percival

DANCE BITES: *Duo Concertant* was one of the highlights of George Balanchine's Stravinsky Festival in 1972: a delicately subtle dance for a man and woman on stage with a violinist and pianist. It joins the Royal Ballet's repertoire on Tues*day to open* this year's small scale Dance Bites tour. Also new in the programme are a duet by Ashley Page to two tracks by Brian Eno and a jazz solo by William Tuckett. William Forsythe's *Hermann Schmermann* and small pieces by Ashton, Tuckett and Matthew Hart complete the bill.
Orchard Theatre, Dartford 🄱 (0322 220000), Tuesday 24 to Thursday 26 at 7.45pm; **Corn Exchange**, Cambridge 🄱 (0223 357851), Saturday 28, 2.30pm and 7.30pm; **Haymarket**, Leicester (0533 539797), Monday 30, 7.30pm, Tuesday 31, 2pm and 7.30pm; **Theatre Royal**, Newcastle 🄱 (091-232 2061), Feb 2 and 3 at 7.30pm, Feb 4 at 2.30pm and 7.30pm.

GISELLE: Meanwhile in London, the Royal Ballet today revives Peter Wright's careful staging of this romantic classic. The tragic heroine is danced by Nicola Roberts this afternoon (2pm), Leanne Benjamin tonight (7pm) and Lesley Collier on *Friday 27 (7.30pm)*. Further performances in February and March also feature Viviana Durante, Sylvie Guillem and Sara Wildor.
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (071-304 4000). 🄱

FILMS

Geoff Brown

INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE (18): Given the wide popularity of Anne Rice's novel, director Neil Jordan's high reputation following *The Crying Game*, and people's curiosity about Tom Cruise with fangs, audiences should flock to this well-publicised film. What you find, however, may not be all that you expect: an over-decorated costume drama that skims the surface of the dark, sexual desires permeating Rice's book. Jordan and his technical team supply some splendid jolts as Cruise's vampire Lestat leads Brad Pitt's Louis into an eternal life of blood-sucking lust, though any finer qualities are ground into powder by the overkill machine.
Barbican 🄱 (071-638 8891); **Clapham Picture House** (071-498 3323); **MGMs: Baker Street** (071-935 9772), **Chelsea** (071-352 5096), **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636), **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Trocadero** 🄱 (071-434 0031); **Notting Hill Coronet** 🄱 (071-727 6705); **Screen/Green** (071-226 3520); **UCI Whiteleys** 🄱 (071-792 3332); **Warner** 🄱 (071-437 4343).

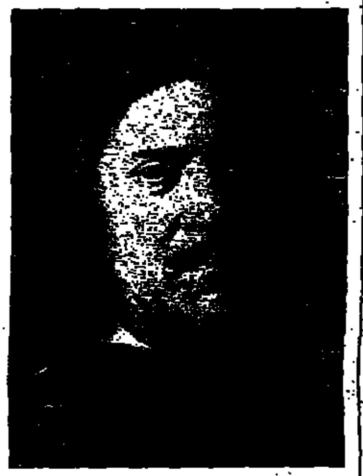
STARGATE (PG): Egyptologist *James Spader and Kurt Russell's* crack team of military muscle walk through a mysterious circular portal, hurtle through time and space, and arrive on a far-distant planet stocked with down-trodden slaves, a bison-like remnant of the *Star Wars* films, and a hermaphrodite dictator (Jaye Davidson from *The Crying Game*) who swans about the galaxy in a flying black pyramid. No good looking for originality here, but as a rollercoaster ride through movie jumble, Roland Emmerich's lavish and preposterous romp offers a great deal of fun.
Clapham Picture House (071-498 3323): **MGMs: Baker Street** (071-935 9772), **Chelsea** (071-352 5096); **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426-915 683), **Marble Arch** (0426 914501), **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098): **UCI Whiteleys** 🄱 (071-792 3332).

● *More films, page 6*

GALLERIES

Richard Cork

POUSSIN: The major old exhibition of the new year has arrived, and it concentrates on a 17th-century painter who has always enjoyed special esteem in Britain. Poussin spent most of his life in Rome, but he was revered in his native France. An idol of the academies, he eventually suffered rejection by artists impatient with the classical rule-book. *But this* new survey reveals his full richness. Starting with the dream-like sensuality of Poussin's early period, it shows how irresistible he could be. Then, influenced by antique statuary, a mood of austerity set in. But it never stifled his inventiveness. In later years, Poussin became more daring than before. His landscapes are outstanding, and the final series devoted to the Four Seasons *is full* of an old man's originality and visionary boldness.
Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, London W1 (071-439 7438), until April 9. 🄱



Self-portrait by Nicolas Poussin

CHANNEL FISH: *Passengers* boarding the Paris express train at Waterloo International are now able to savour a 44-metre sculpture suspended from the concourse ceiling. *The shoal of ten gleaming* electro-mechanical fish is the work of the French artist Jean-Luc Vilmouth. He was inspired by Nicholas Grimshaw's undulating *terminal building, the shape of the* trains and tunnel, and the silvery sand eel. In constant motion, his luminous fish are linked by computer to the movement of the departing trains. They are meant to soothe, and may well calm first-*time tunnel passengers. But they* also provide a disconcerting reminder of the water above the train as it crosses the channel.
Waterloo International, London. The Channel Fish are visible from the arrivals concourse below, from the upper-level departures, and from outside the building.

MUSEUMS

John Russell Taylor

WARWORKS: Two assumptions are challenged in this show: that war and war art are the province of men, and that photography in the *context of war is confined to photo*journalism. The 11 artists included here are all women, and all work with photography in ways far from reportage. The most conventional are probably Anne Noggle, with a series of studio portraits of American women pilots of the Second World War, and Anne Fox, who *wittily observes* British weekend war games of the 1990s. Sophie Ristelhueber makes over-lifesize studies of scars and injuries in a Paris hospital, while Barbara Alpar uses sound images from television reports of the Gulf War, and *Hannah Collins works with* existing pictures of London bomb damage from the Blitz. Always surprising and often touching.
Victoria and Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 (071-938 8500), Monday, noon-5.50pm; Tuesday-Sunday, *10am-5.50pm*, until March 19. 🄱

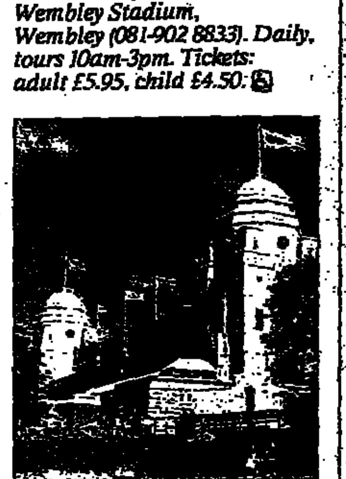
ASK THE CHILDREN: It is said, "If you want a true picture, ask the children". While the idea may be sentimental, it is likely that if you turn a group of schoolchildren loose on a collection like that at Pallant House and ask them to select their favourites, and tell you why, the results will be fresh and unexpected. Thirty children from Bosham Primary School, aged between five and 11, have selected *works as varied as* Ceri Richards's *Saudade*, Severini's *Danseuse No 5* and Norman Bluhm's *Green With Blue and Red*.
Pallant House, Chichester (0243 774557), Tuesday-Saturday, *10am-5.30pm*, until April 1.

CHILDREN

LONDON

Backstage Tours of the National: See behind the scenes and visit the workshop where the props and sets are made.
National Theatre, South Bank SE1 (071-633 0880). Tour times: daily, Monday-Saturday at 10.15am, 12.30pm, 12.45pm, 5.30pm and 5.45pm. Tickets: adult £3.50, child £2.50. Book in advance. 🄱

Wembley Stadium Tours: A behind-the-scenes tour of the world-famous stadium, including the control rooms, television studio, changing room and players' tunnel, and a chance to sit in the Royal Box.
Wembley Stadium, Wembley (081-902 8833). Daily, tours 10am-3pm. Tickets: adult £5.95, child £4.50. 🄱



Wembley's famous towers

Twizzle the Clown: Participate in the magic, balloon-modelling and Punch and Judy.
Lyric Theatre, King Street, Hammersmith (081-741 2311). Today, 11am and 1pm. Tickets £3. Age 3-7. 🄱

Snow Queen: The story of two friends and the adventures one goes through to rescue the other from the haunting queen.
Polka Theatre for Children, 240 The Broadway, Wimbledon, SW19 (081-543 4888). Today, Friday 27, 7pm: Saturday 28, 2pm, 5.30pm. Tickets £8. Age 6 and over. 🄱

AVON

The Exploratory Hands-On Science Centre: Interact with scientific exhibits, try to build a bridge, use satellite dishes to whisper to your friends across a crowded room and play the world's largest guitar.
Bristol Old Station, Temple Meads, Bristol (0272 225944). Open daily, 10am-5pm. Adult £4.75, child £3. 🄱

DORSET

Birdboats: Take a boat trip around Poole Harbour to watch the shorebirds and waders.
Poole Quay (0202 666226). Tomorrow, 11am. Tickets: adult £4.25, child £3.

LANCASHIRE

Wigan Pier: A living heritage centre, part theatre and part museum. See a working steam engine, a coal mine and the Victorian school room. Use the Amsterdam-style waterbuses to travel between different areas.
Wigan Pier, Wallgate, Wigan (0942 323666). Open Monday-Thursday, 10am-5pm; Saturday, Sunday, 11am-5pm. Admission: adult £4.10, child £3.10. 🄱

SCOTLAND

Museum of Childhood: See the exhibition of doll's house furniture, *It's a Small World*, and memorabilia from childhood through the ages.
Museum of Childhood, 42 High Street, Edinburgh (031-529 4142). Open Monday-Saturday, 10am-5pm. Admission free. 🄱

YORKSHIRE

Off the Beaten Track: A hitch-hikers' guide to percussion, *from the dinosaur stomp to Star Wars.* See what is in the music box, meet the artists and participate in the music-making. Free coffee and biscuits before the performance, ice cream after.
Under the Clock Tower, Town Hall, Wood Street, Wakefield 🄱 *(0924 295121). Tomorrow, 11am; Merlin Theatre, 2 Meadow Bank Road, Sheffield (0742 551638). Tomorrow, 3pm. Tickets: adult £3, child £1.50.*

Structures and Forces: Discover why buildings stand up or fall down. Build something and then knock it down.
The Arc, St Saviourgate, York (0904 654324). Ends Friday 27. Monday-Friday, 10am-4pm; Saturday 1pm-4pm. Admission £2.75. 🄱

The Fishing Heritage Centre: Sign on as ships' crew, and bring in the fish on the ice-covered, pitching and rolling decks without leaving dry land.
The Fishing Heritage Centre, Alexandra Dock, Great Grimsby (0472 344868). Daily 10am-6pm. Adult £3.10, child £2.30. 🄱

HEATHER ALSTON

Attending chapel at Eton College is an education in itself, Ruth Gledhill reports

AT YOUR SERVICE

Visitors to Eton's chapel, gazing at its apparently medieval fan-vaulting *so reminiscent of* King's College, Cambridge, may gain an eerie sense of entering a gothic incubator for that university's intellectual elite. In fact, the Eton chapel's roof was completed only in 1959, after its predecessor was made unsafe by *the ravages of death-watch beetle*, although after founding Eton in 1440 Henry VI did go on to establish King's College in Cambridge, which was to be supplied with scholars from Eton.

The public is welcome to all Eton services, and I arrived early to hear the choir of 54, including two masters, *practising under the* direction of precentor Ralph Allwood. Half the boys had auditioned for the choir after arriving at the school, and half had won *music scholarships* to Eton on the strength of their voice *or their musical ability*.

As we began morning service, Roman Catholic boys were simultaneously worshipping with their priest, Father Peter Knott, in an adjoining room called "upper school", a panelled room with carved names of Old Etonians such as Walpole, Peel, Gladstone and the poet Shelley.

The Rev John Witheridge, the school's Conduct or senior chaplain, who last week made headlines with his criticism of the Church of England as "divided into the sectarian and the socialist", led the service. The boys wore *the "school dress" that is compul*sory for chapel, lessons and assemblies: black tailcoat, black waistcoat, pinstriped trousers and white shirt and collar. The boys with white bow ties, a sign of responsibility, were senior boys. I sat near Head Master John Lewis and next to one of six Masters-in-Desk, who "mark out" lists of boys who should be there and note the names of absentees for *the Head Master's Bill*, a daily "court" in his schoolroom where miscreants go to be given detention, or chores such as polishing brass in the chapel. The 70 boys in white surplices were the King's scholars, also known as Collegers, *who live in the central Tudor* buildings and whose fees are heavily reduced. Of the 1,200 Oppidans at Eton, full fee-paying pupils who live in school houses in the town rather than in College, the two senior blocks of the school — the "specialists" — were at chapel. The Lower boys were in a Victorian chapel nearby, and *the Middle year were in a* theatre having an assembly.

JULIAN HERBERT

Etonians, heads bowed, worshipping at morning service

To the south of the West door was Sir Antony Acland, the Provost, and to the right Tim Card, Vice-Provost, who read the first lesson from Proverbs 3: "Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding." The lectern, like the chapel, goes back to the 15th century and readings have traditionally been from the King James bible, as was Mr Card's. However, the Provost chose the modern New English Bible for his reading, from 1 Cor 2, which speaks of "the attested truth of God without display of fine words or wisdom".

Chapel is compulsory at Eton: The Lower year must go six times a week, the Sixth form two Sundays in three and twice a week. Communion is never compulsory. Canon Brian Hebblethwaite, former dean of Queens' *College, Cambridge, attempted* to address some of the questions that such a religious education might give rise to in the young: "One of the things that has frightened me very much over the last decades is the fact that more and more young people come up to Cambridge with no religious background whatsoever," he said. "It *is not that they are hostile to* religion. They are not rebelling against something that is forced on them at home or at school, as I suppose some of you may do. *Indeed, they may take a mild* interest in the fact that some of the people they encounter at university are religious. Religious people may seem to them like quaint survivors, rather like *the changing of the guard, or beefeaters*."

Mr Card, in his recent history of the college, *Eton Renewed*, describes the idealism that lay behind the education at Eton, that pupils should be of service to their fellows and the State, an idealism which *he says* was "ultimately based on the wide acceptance of Christian duty." Yet while Etonians might now be less well placed to influence public affairs than in the past, as recently as 1983, Mr Card points out, Old Etonians in positions of public influence included the Archbishop of York, the Lord Chancellor, the Governor of the Bank of England and the editor of *The Times*.

Eton College Chapel, Windsor, Berkshire, SL4 6DW. Tel: 0753 671224.

CONDUCT: The Rev John Witheridge

ARCHITECTURE: Perpendicu*lar Gothic-style chapel built in the* 15th century. ★★★

SERMON: With references to Shakespeare, Dante, Wittgenstein and Bernard Levin of *The Times*, Canon Hebblethwaite debated what made some people religious and others not, and why for him religion had to be a *matter of the* head as well as the heart. ★★★★

LITURGY: Simplified and shortened *Book of Common Prayer*. ★★★★★

MUSIC: Superb. Any boy who is musical enough and passes Common Entrance, the public schools' exam taken at 13, can go to Eton on a music scholarship. Boys are also taken on music scholarships at 16. ★★★★

AFTER-SERVICE CARE: I was extended hospitality offered often to visiting parents and friends but not so often to members of the public. ★★★★

SPIRITUAL HIGH: With so much talk of beaks, bills and penguin suits, any failure to soar could only be my own. ★★★★

★ *stars are awarded to a maximum of five.*

Paul Roberts, an experienced big-game hunter, with his quarry on the Selous Reserve

Continued from page 1

densest thorn scrub they can find, where they are a match for any lion while they still have their strength.

We had two of Hurt's trackers with us, both from a hunting tribe, and, after six miles, they motioned towards a patch of thorn trees 600 yards to our right. The hard African light cuts deep shadows and even with binoculars I could see only black and light patches. Then the black moved and rearranged itself into a buffalo.

Keeping downwind, moving in Indian file, we stalked through the scrub until we were some 300 yards away, the bull still grazing unawares.

Hurt uses a tripod of bamboo poles lashed together to form a steady rest for the rifle. To position them at eye level, you have to rest the thumb and barrel on the triangulation and pull them up smoothly, resting all three feet on the ground. All of which I forgot in the heat of the moment.

Buffalo are never without their familiars, the little oxbirds that peck off the parasites from their hides. A flicker of wings and the buffalo was staring at us. "Shoot now," Hurt hissed. Broadside, a buffalo exposes his heart, lungs and spine to a fatal shot, but head on, there is only the brain or neck to aim for, both of which demand pin-point accuracy. Trying to settle a telescopic sight's cross-hairs can be testing at that range, as you are all too conscious of the consequences of a muffed shot: according to the rules of the game, the professional has to kill a wounded beast, the result of a client's bad shot.

The bull had seen enough, snorted his disgust and left, the dust smoking in his trail. The trackers and Hurt turned equally abruptly. It's difficult to find and stalk a shootable beast. They had done their bit, but the shot had not been taken. An awkward, silent lunch followed.

Another four miles and another bull, smaller but older and some 70 yards from cover. We slid within 40 yards of him before he sensed us, and trotted forwards, angling his body away so that a fatal shot into his vital organs was now difficult. Drawing back the sight behind his foreleg I compensated for the new position, aimed for the heart and squeezed. The report of the heavy rifle freeze-framed the bush. Nothing moved. Then the bull galloped off, turned as Hurt attempted to stop him with his double rifle, and disappeared into thick cover.

"He's in a very bad place now. We'll have to wait," Hurt muttered, to the accompaniment of hard looks from the trackers. But I was confident that the shot was mortal: I'd missed the heart, and shot him in the lungs but it was a fatal shot nonetheless.

For half an hour we smoked and said nothing. "He should have bellowed by now. They do just before they expire," Hurt said finally. "We'll have to go and get him."

Following the bull's trail into the cover, I saw the bright red blood that marks a lung shot, but no one else drew solace from it. Hurt was in front of me now. Twenty yards in he whispered: "Be ready. If he charges, and you have a clear line, shoot."

Another 20 yards and there he lay, dead, an old bull of about 14, his ears torn and flanks scarred from battles. He would have died within two minutes of being shot.

It was a better death than that ordained by nature. Buffalo do not die of old age. Their teeth wear down and they would starve to death, but before that happens they usually fall prey to predators. A lion might break its neck in the initial strike but usually the buffalo is pursued, pulled down and, while being throttled but still very much alive, the rest of the pack starts eating its stomach. A bullet, from a buffalo's point of view, must be preferable. All the same, I felt saddened for him, an easy sentiment for a well-fed Western man. The trackers saw him otherwise. They saw him as almost a ton of first-class meat to be eaten fresh or dried into biltong.

Ox-birds eat buffalo ticks

That night we ate buffalo steaks and raised a toast to him. Had my sights wavered the second time it could have been a different ending, but none, I hope, would have begrudged the buffalo his victory. After all, to make this dangerous game worthwhile, it is essential that the buffalo sometimes wins.

"The buffalo is the British sportsmen's prime quarry," Hurt says. "Buffalo are extremely tough and, even with a shot through the heart or lungs, are quite capable of running between 50 and 200 yards before being affected. The only way to stop a charging buffalo is to kill him with a brain shot — no easy task with his head bobbing up and down with the momentum of the charge."

During his 31 years in the business Hurt has followed up hundreds of wounded buffalo and faced more charges than he cares to remember. His closest call was in Zambia.

"My client wounded a large bull buffalo with a .375 shot to the stomach. I was unable to get a back-up shot in time, and the buffalo went straight into close thicket cover. There was little or no blood owing to the nature of the wound.

"We followed him into the thicket with difficulty because there were lots of buffalo tracks. After about two hours my two trackers, Laboso and Joseph, my client and myself lost the tracks, and all traces of stomach fluid and blood had disappeared. We cast around for half an hour or so in extremely dense cover and picked up his tracks again.

"Several minutes later I heard him move in the dense foliage ahead of us. We left the tracks. Taking the lead I headed directly towards the noise. I was armed with my .470 double-barrelled rifle loaded with solid bullet cartridges. [Most professional hunters use double rifles in these circumstances. A bolt-action rifle could jam.]

"The next instant I heard a crash, and the thicket in front of me exploded. Five yards away out came the bull, charging straight at me. I fired, trying to hit him on the point of the nose, angling for the brain. The shot had no effect. I was momentarily taken aback: I had been so sure of my shot I had expected the bull to collapse instantly.

"By the time I had adjusted my aim and pulled the second trigger, the bull was on me and I fired my second shot at point-blank range. The next second I was flying through the air, and landed five feet away, to see the bull trample all over Joseph and attempt to gore him. Luckily, a tree stump was in the way and bore the brunt of the attack.

"Laboso, my other tracker, had a rifle but was unable to shoot for fear of hitting Joseph. My client did the sensible thing and dived into the centre of a bush at the moment of attack, removing himself from the line of fire and the buffalo's immediate reach.

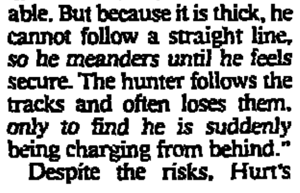
"I reloaded and was about to shoot when the bull fell to the ground and started to bellow. The fight was over. Joseph was lying on the ground, semi-delirious, and I feared the worst. He was heavily bruised but, fortunately, it was only a glancing blow; the horns hadn't penetrated."

Paul Roberts of Rigby's, makers of big-game rifles, also came close to death in Botswana in 1978, after he had shot a bull with a .458 rifle. "He separated from the rest of the herd," Roberts says, "and ran into some thick bush. We followed and saw the bull lying down. I fired twice more and he ran into some low scrub. When we were 60 yards from the edge of the scrub, the buffalo charged. I fired the first shot at 40 yards, with no result, then another at 15 yards — still no effect. Then he was upon us. Placing the muzzle almost against him, I fired the .458 one-handed, then gave the animal another shot which killed him."

The buffalo's ability to survive and hunt the hunter has always been admired by those who hunt him. John F. Burger shot more than a thousand in 30 years in an attempt to check the spread of tsetse to domestic cattle, and to provide food for the peoples of two world wars. In his classic, *African Buffalo Trails*, published in 1957, he described the animal as "dangerous and vindictive, perhaps the most ferocious killer of all. No animal is possessed of greater courage, and few can equal him in natural cunning."

Yet the beast's skill in ambush is probably less premeditated than instinctive, according to Hurt. "A wounded buffalo chooses his cover, and always starts his charge at close range. Instinct leads him into the heaviest cover available. But because it is thick, he cannot follow a straight line, so he meanders until he feels secure. The hunter follows the tracks and often loses them, only to find he is suddenly being charging from behind."

Despite the risks, Hurt's clients are a well-heeled élite, mostly Americans prepared to pay handsomely for a traditional safari, which includes a voluntary 20 per cent conservation surcharge added by Hurt in order to tackle the poaching problem.



Checking the telescopic sight

Poachers string snares along the game trails and kill everything from giraffes to leopards, which are sold for meat. They destroy wildlife indiscriminately and rob poor countries of hard currency. A Tanzanian hunting licence, for example, costs around £1,300 for a lion or leopard, and about £500 for a buffalo. To the local people, who do not see this money, there seems no reason not to help themselves to a seemingly inexhaustible supply of game.

Hurt has resolved this by employing the best local poachers as trackers and by setting up anti-poaching patrols.

The future for Africa's big game is uncertain as mankind increasingly encroaches on their habitat. The solution lies in giving the game an economic worth for those who share their land. In the first world it is easy to condemn the poacher for obliterating the elephant and the rhino, but for poor men born to hunt, they are a huge prize dead and worth nothing alive.

In Zimbabwe, where controlled hunting has brought revenue, meat and hides to local people and paid for wildlife management, the elephant now has to be culled to control its booming population. In Kenya, full protection for the elephant meant no one had a personal stake, except the poacher, and so the elephant population has plummeted.

The Kenyan Government had forgotten the truth of the plains. Whether lion or man, no one is more interested in the hunted than the hunter.

● *Jonathan Young is editor of* The Field.

Non-hunting safaris, page 18

Cover photograph by FRANS LANTING/ZEFA

Licensed to kill: where to hunt big game

BIG-GAME hunting is still a rich man's sport. Even the cheapest — seven days in Zimbabwe stalking ten different animals on an 80,000-acre estate — costs about £2,100. On top of that there are the "trophy fees", which can cost as much as £16,000 for an elephant.

Only about 200 Britons a year visit Africa to hunt game — around 5 per cent of the total number of Europeans. It is the Americans who really keep the African safari business buoyant.

Germans and Americans are particularly keen on shooting one of the so-called "Big Five": elephant, lion, leopard, buffalo and rhinoceros. Britons prefer stalking plains game such as antelope and wildebeest, although a buffalo is still a much-prized trophy.

James Naylor, associate director of Roxton, Bailey, Robinson Field Sports and Safaris in Berkshire, has traversed the globe hunting game and now helps others to plan their safaris.

"Britons enjoy big-game hunting," he says, "not necessarily the killing but the hunt."

Roxton, Bailey, Robinson is one of only a handful of agents based in Britain that organise big-game hunting safaris.

Mr Naylor says the average high-street travel agent does not have the specialist knowledge to organise safaris. "If you are going to spend that kind of money, you'll want a personal recommendation," he says.

And so safari news is spread by word of mouth among the small, tightly knit hunting fraternity or via advertisements in specialist magazines.

Many travel agents will not organise hunting safaris on principle — most cater to the more benign "hunter" who uses only a camera. Others are put off by fear of retribution from an increasingly hostile green movement.

Richard Neasom, managing director of UK Field and Stream, a safari company in Hereford & Worcester, says that the anti-bloodsport lobby rarely looks at the other side of the coin. "Culling programmes are designed to maintain game levels so animals don't overpopulate, destroying the habitat at a rapid rate," he says. Mr Neasom cites Botswana as an example of country where there are too many elephants for the land to sustain. Therefore culling would, he says, contribute to the well-being of the land.

Visiting big-game hunters generate more revenue than the average sightseer, and so African countries now look upon game as a renewable resource which has to be protected.

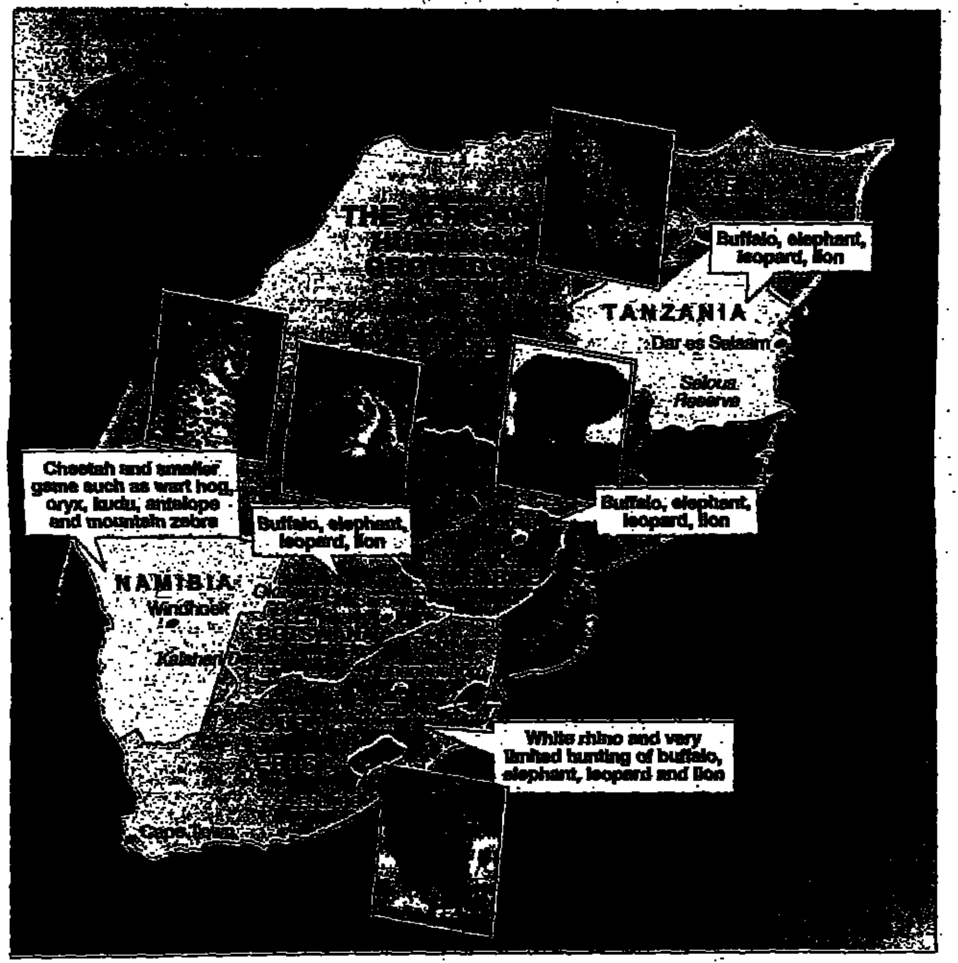
> ❛ Visiting big-game hunters generate more tourist revenue than the average sightseer ❜

To that end, governments impose strict controls on hunting. They set quotas for their country based on the previous year's big-game census and these quotas are shared out between approved operators. In Zimbabwe, for instance, official quotas for endangered species in 1993 were: 250 elephant, 500 leopard, 50 cheetah and unlimited crocodile. Governments charge approved safari companies for a given number of licences — say ten for leopards, five for elephants. This money is used for game management and poacher control.

In Zimbabwe's state-owned areas, a Government-appointed ranger will accompany the safari to oversee how the hunt is conducted. A professional hunter can lose his permit and therefore his livelihood if his hunt is badly run.

Tanzania, where four of the Big Five can be hunted, is currently one of the hottest hunting destinations; it is also the most expensive due to Government levies. It is popular for its long safaris — sometimes stretching to 28 days — and prices which range from around £700 to £1,300 per person per day. This price covers Government area fees, hunting permits and conservation fees. Some hunters spend as much as £70,000 a head for a 28-day safari. Now at least this rich man's game ploughs back some money to the land which supports the animals.

MEGAN TURNER



TANZANIA
Dar es Salaam
Selous Reserve
Buffalo, elephant, leopard, lion
Cheetah and smaller game such as wart hog, oryx, kudu, antelope and mountain zebra
Buffalo, elephant, leopard, lion
Buffalo, elephant, leopard, lion
NAMIBIA
Windhoek
White rhino and very limited hunting of buffalo, elephant, leopard and lion

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THE TIMES

Win a £3,400 trip to the Amazon rainforest

A ten-day trip to the forests of the Amazon for two people, worth £3,400, is the first prize in a *Times* competition to mark the publication of David Attenborough's *The Private Life of Plants*.

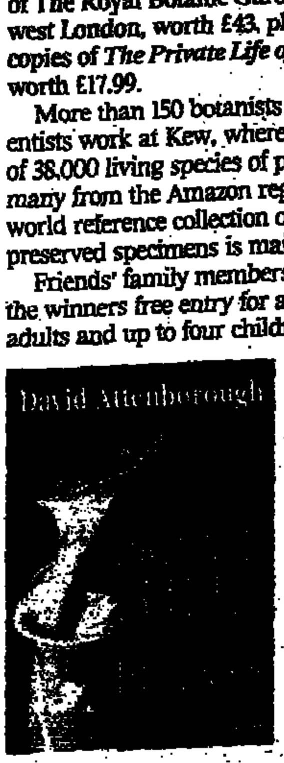
From London, the winner and a companion will travel to a village in the heart of the rainforest in Brazil. They will be able to see the unique and varied plants and animals of the region when they explore by boat and on foot. The prize, organised by the Latin America tour specialists Cox & Kings, includes all international and local flights, transfers, accommodation and sightseeing.

The winner, and 24 runners-up, will also receive Friends' family membership of The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew in west London, worth £43, plus signed copies of *The Private Life of Plants*, worth £17.99.

More than 150 botanists and other scientists work at Kew, where the collection of 38,000 living species of plants includes many from the Amazon region and a world reference collection of 6 million preserved specimens is maintained.

Exotic beauty at Kew Gardens

Friends' family membership will give the winners free entry for a year for two adults and up to four children at Kew and at Wakehurst Place in Sussex, plus other privileges. To enter the competition, send the answers to the following questions on a postcard with your name, address and daytime phone number to: 5 Britons Court, London, EC88 6NG. Entries must be received by January 30, 1995. Usual Times Newspapers competition rules apply.



The questions:

1. *In what year did Augusta found The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew?*
2. *Name the Kew scientist who sent Brazilian rubber seeds round the world in the late 19th century.*
3. *What is the title of the gardens' alphabetical list of all known flowering plants?*
4. *What is the approximate length of the River Amazon?*

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Tomor 22 Jan 3.00pm	**PIERRE BOULEZ 70TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION** London Symphony Orchestra, Pierre Boulez cond., Daniel Barenboim piano. Stravinsky Song of the Nightingale, Boulez Notations I-IV, Webern Six Pieces, Bartók Piano Concerto No.1 £6 £10 £14 £18.50 £22 £30 *LSO Ltd.*
Tue/Thur 24/26 Jan 7.30pm	**PIERRE BOULEZ 70TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION** Jessye Norman Impressions London Symphony Orchestra Pierre Boulez cond., Jessye Norman sop., *London Symphony* Chorus. Boulez Livre pour cordes. Berg Seven Early Songs, Altenberg Lieder, Bartók The Miraculous Mandarin *24 JAN SPONSORED BY BANQUE NATIONALE DE PARIS P.L.C.* *26 JAN SPONSORED BY AMERICAN AIRLINES* £6 £10 £14 £18.50 £22 £30 *LSO Ltd.*
Wed 25 Jan 7.30pm	**JACK BRYMER'S 80TH BIRTHDAY CONCERT** English Chamber Orchestra. Medici String Quartet. Ian Watson cond., Jack Brymer clarinet. Mozart Symphony No.40 in G minor, Clarinet Concerto; Clarinet Quintet, Weber Clarinet Concerto No.1 £9.50 £13.50 £16.50 £19.50 £22.50 - *Raymond Gubbay Ltd.*
Fri 27 Jan 7.15pm	**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** Mark Elder cond., Beaux Arts Trio. Weber Overture from The *Ruler of the Spirits.* Beethoven Triple Concerto, Strauss Symphonia Domestica *CBSO in association* £21 £18.50 £16.50 £12.50 £5 *with the Barbican Centre*

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Fri 27 Jan 7.30	**THE LONDON PHILHARMONIC** Resident at the RFH. Leon Gee (cond) Artur Pizarro (piano) Mendelssohn Overture, Ruy Blas; Grieg Piano Concerto; Rachmaninov Symphony No.2 £10, £5 *The London Philharmonic

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Thu 26 Jan 7.45	**THE DON GROLNICK GROUP** An all-star lineup in orbit around the leader of leaders from New York, features Don Grolnick (piano) with Michael Brecker (tenor sax) Randy Brecker (trumpet) & Peter Erskine (drums) £15, £12.50, £7.50 *ACE*SBC
Fri 27 Jan 7.45	**MITSUKO UCHIDA plays SCHUBERT & SCHOENBERG** Schubert Sonata in B, D.575; Sonata in B flat, D.960; Schoenberg Suite, Op.25; Klavierstücke, Op.33a & Op.33b £20, £16, £12, £7.50 Van Walsum Management Ltd

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Sunday 22 Jan 11.30 am NB: starting time	**MENDELSSOHN STRING QUARTET** Coffee Concert Haydn: Quartet in B flat Op.103 (unfinished) Stravinsky: 3 Pieces for String Quartet (1914) Brahms: Quartet in B flat Op.67 £7 including programme and coffee/sherry/juice Wigmore Hall
Sunday 22 Jan 4.00 pm NB: starting time	**DOWLAND CONSORT** Early Music & Baroque Series Jakob Lindberg dir, lute. 10TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT. Music for viols, lutes, flute, bandora & cittern by Dowland, Morley, Byrd, Rosse and Allison; lute music by Dowland, Piccinini and Gabriel £11, £9, £7, £5 Mgt: Francesca McManus
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Tuesday 24 Jan 7.30 pm	**LESLIE HOWARD piano** LISZT AT THE OPERA - ENCORE. Excerpts from *Rienzi, Roméo et Juliette, Lucia et Parisina, Lohengrin and Robert le diable; Figaro* and *Don Giovanni Fantasies; Rigoletto Paraphrase* £15.00, £15.00, £10.00, £7.50
Wednesday 25 Jan 6.00 pm NB: starting time	**MELVYN TAN & RONALD BRAUTIGAM** fortepiano duet Rush-Hour Concert Schubert: 3 Marches militaires D733; Divertissement à l'hongroise D818; Rondo in A D951 All seats £5 Wigmore Hall in association with BBC Radio 3
Thursday 26 Jan 7.30 pm	**BEAUX ARTS TRIO** Master Concert Mozart: Piano Trio in G K496 Turina: Trio No.1 Op.35 (1926) Schubert: Trio in E flat D929 £16, £14, £10, £5 Wigmore Hall
Friday 27 Jan 7.30 pm	**RUTH ZIESAK soprano** Song Recital Series CHARLES SPENCER piano Mozart: 7 songs; Strauss: Mädchenblumen Op.22; 3 Ophelia Lieder Op.67; Debussy: Fêtes Galantes I & II; Milhaud: Catalogue de fleurs £14, £12, £9, £6 Wigmore Hall
Saturday 28 Jan 5.00 pm NB: starting time	**LOUISE WINTER mezzo-soprano** Song Recital Series *GERALD FINLEY baritone, JULIUS DRAKE piano* SATURDAY SCHUBERTIADES: A SONG DIARY Songs from the early years 1811-14 including Gretchen am Spinnrade £7 Wigmore Hall
Saturday 28 Jan 7.30 pm	**QUATUOR MANFRED of Paris** Francis Dawson Haydn: String Quartet in C Op.54 No.2 Smetana: Quartet No.1 in E minor *From my life* (1876) Schubert: Quartet in G D887 [illegible]

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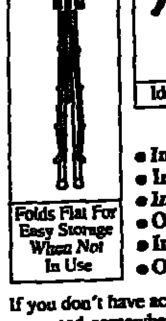

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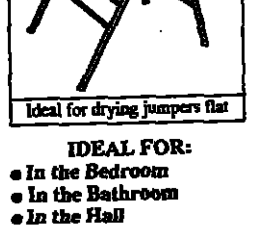

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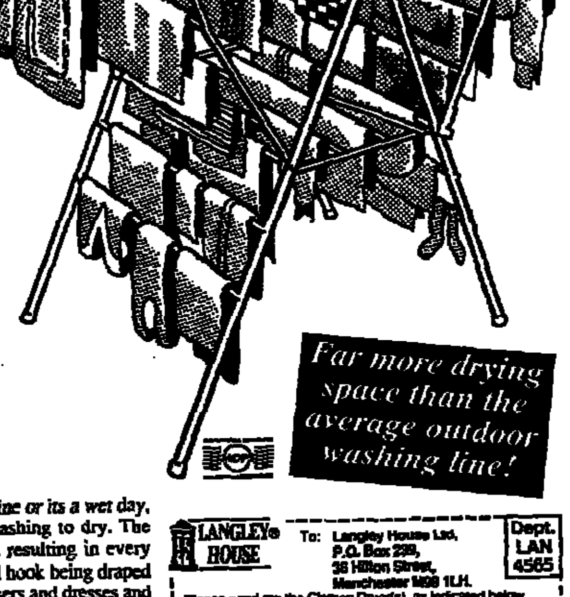

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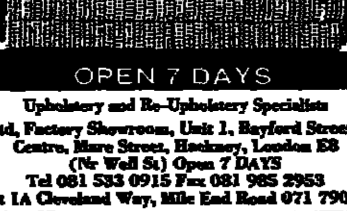

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So who framed Leonard Bernstein? Last July it was revealed that the FBI had compiled a 666-page dossier on the conductor. Yes, 666 pages on somebody whose worst crime was an excess of *rubato* in Mahler symphonies. But perhaps that is a federal offence in America.

Now his daughter, Jamie, has written an article in which she accuses the FBI — which always suspected Bernstein of being a flagrant homosexual (right, at least some nights) and a Commie (wrong) — of leaking damaging lies about him to the press, sponsoring hate-mail and demonstrations against him, and generally treating America's greatest musician like a closet terrorist.

Paranoia? Perhaps. But it would not have been the first time that a musician had been smeared. A couple of decades earlier, Aaron Copland — the composer of the *Lincoln Portrait*, for heaven's sake — had been hauled before McCarthy and accused of being un-American. Bernstein, a somewhat naive believer in free speech and free association, was much easier to frame.

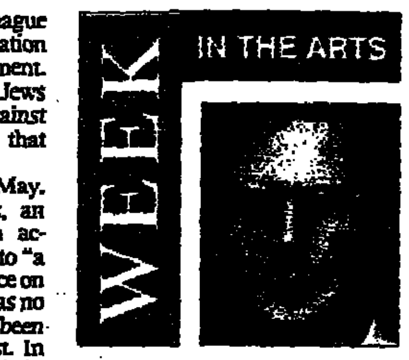
The FBI's main opportunity, its files reveal, came exactly 25 years ago this week. Bernstein's wife hosted a party in January 1970 at which rich Manhattan liberals would raise funds to support the 21 Black Panthers accused of plotting to kill policemen (the case against them collapsed when it was revealed that an FBI infiltrator had instigated the plot himself).

At the party, Bernstein talked with Donald Cox, a Panther leader. Cox rambled through his preposterous philosophy, and at the end, according to a hostile *New York Times* report, the conductor said "I dig absolutely".

Bernstein furiously denied that he had said any such thing. His denial was never printed. Instead, according to his daughter, the FBI incited the Jewish Defense League to begin a non-stop demonstration outside Bernstein's apartment. "The FBI deliberately pitted Jews and African-Americans against each other, fanning flames that burn to this day," she writes.

Worse was to follow. In May, according to the *FBI's* files, an agent suggested leaking an account of the Bernstein party to "a co-operative news media source on a confidential basis". There was no need. Present at the party had been a young, ambitious journalist. In June he wrote about it brilliantly in a *New York* magazine article that made his name and coined a phrase that smeared a whole generation. He was Tom Wolfe; the article was *Radical Chic: That Party at Lenny's*. "Of course," says Bernstein's daughter bitterly, "when it appeared, it played directly into the FBI's hands."

WEEK IN THE ARTS



RICHARD MORRISON

It was not the last time that a journalist did that. Years later, the New York writer Joan Peyser would produce a biography of Bernstein that shocked the musical world with its explicit and utterly merciless revelations about his sexual appetites. There were blow-by-blow accounts of nights of debauchery that had taken place decades earlier, recalled in extraordinary detail by someone who had never been there and who knew Bernstein only slightly. How Peyser acquired this detail has always been something of a mystery. I expect it always will be.

How wrong can you be? Or, to put it more honestly, how wrong can I be? Three weeks ago, after John Osborne's death, I deplored the lack of danger in the British theatre at present. How they must have giggled at the Royal Court when they read that! For they knew what I did not: the contents of Sarah Kane's *Blasted*, which opened this week with its scenes of homosexual rape and eyeball-munching (send for the restaurant critic, I say).

"Eight people walk out!" screamed one newspaper. Not exactly a stampede, then. Nevertheless, the Royal Court's new management (led by Stephen Daldry, probably the next boss of the National Theatre) needed a *succès de scandale*, and Ms Kane's exquisite *oeuvre* provides it.

Now her play will surely take its place in the *Oxford Companion to Simulated Atrocities*, alongside such classics as Bond's *Early Morning* (cannibalism, involving Queen Victoria), Brenton's *Romans in Britain* (more homosexual rape), and of course Pasolini's *120 Days of Sodom* (you name it). Each of these was excoriated in the press, reviled in the Lords, condemned in pulpits. Indeed, the homosexual rape in Brenton's *Romans* led advocates of theatrical censorship to mount what the *Penguin Theatre Dictionary* memorably describes as a "famous rearguard action".

Yet Western civilisation survived. Indeed, we now look back at those shock-horror nights w affection. I remember a production of *The Beggar's Opera*, mounted a decade ago, which including many adventurous ideas. For instance, the entire cast simulated mass suicide by hanging. For obvious reasons, this was the finale. Earlier, the actress playing Polly Peachum had walked into the audience and offered everybody something that smelt suspiciously not like tobacco. And of course there was an orgy — a major *tour de force*, since the couples involved had to sing a complicated part-song at the same time.

This proved too much for one distinguished opera critic. "I've had enough of this," he shouted, and stomped towards the exit. "I don't believe you've had it at all," retorted one of the actresses, before resuming her ecstatic congress. Strangely, this ebullient ad-lib was not recorded in his review.

Twists can still thrill

THEATRE: Benedict Nightingale on Priestley's *Dangerous Corner*

You can hear the inimitable accents of Yorkshire bloodymindedness in the remarks J.B. Priestley made about *Dangerous Corner* in his later years. It was, he said, "merely an ingenious box of tricks" which he would not walk half a mile to see. Hard words for his first theatrical success and a work that, according to a mathematically minded biographer, has been performed more often and in more places than any of his plays.

Dare I suggest that it is more straightforwardly enjoyable than his other, more pretentious "time plays"? Keith Baxter's gripping production (at the Whitehall Theatre) gives me the excuse I need. The theories of J.W. Dunne may not have influenced it, as they did *Time and the Conways*, nor does the ghost of Ouspensky hover eccentrically over the action, as it does over *I Have Been Here Before*. Insofar as it concerns time, the play takes a blunt, commonsensical, doughtily Priestleyan stance. There are moments when life suddenly presents us with potentially lethal bends and branches in the road. Better to apply the brakes and proceed cautiously, obeying your ontological Highway Code, than hit the throttle and go careering towards cataclysm.

This isn't an idea that would force Wittgenstein to rethink the universe, but it certainly makes for thrilling drama, for until they get a mysterious second run at their dangerous corner, the characters keep the accelerator jammed while they travel through swamps, across chasms and over abysses. Yet it all starts from nothing: the proferring of a cigarette box that belonged to Martin Caplan, a publisher who shot himself some months ago. One question leads to another, and yet another to still others. Pandora might be collaborating with Priestley, given the awful secrets that eventually teem from that tiny box.

DONALD COOPER

Haunted by dark secrets: Keith Baxter as Robert Caplan, Gayle Hunnicutt as Freda Caplan, in *Dangerous Corner*

Did Martin really steal the firm's money and commit suicide in despair? If not, why did he die and who was the thief? Who saw him last, why, and with what result? Who loved him most, a woman or (a hint of homosexuality here, rare in its day) a man? What do the survivors really feel about each other, and will they all survive? Enough to say that not everything is well with any of those on view: Martin's brother and partner, Robert, played with darkening intensity by Baxter himself; his wife Freda, a wonderfully cool, watchful Gayle Hunnicutt; Susan Penhaligon and Christopher Timothy, Tristan Gemmill and Charlotte Ruthven as characters variously severe, rough-diamond, brittle and fake-gamin.

The obvious comparison is with Priestley's later blend of post-mortem and thriller, *An Inspector Calls*, and it is not altogether to the less mature play's discredit. *Dangerous Corner* does not earnestly moralise and importantly pontificate, but gently drops its thoughts about our responsibility for each other, and the wisdom of maintaining some illusions in a cruel world, into a rather tenser, more adroitly engineered plot. Priestley may have half-disowned the play. Myself, I'd rather embrace it.

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament

ROSA MAGGIORA

Profession: Theatre designer

Age: 31

Forthcoming: She is currently returning the Royal Shakespeare Company to gas lighting. Director Katie Mitchell has brought Maggiora into the Barbican for her imminent production of Strindberg's *Easter* in the Pit. Maggiora is painting the whole place, creating an icy environment lit by flickering lamps.

Designs to date: These include *Party Girls* at Stratford East; at the Glasgow Citizens, her purgatorial *Happy Days* with Winnie incarcerated in plaster of Paris against a triptych of burnt-orange screens, and a staging of *Venus and Adonis* which turned the studio an ethereal blue; for Arthur Schnitzler's dramatised short stories at the Greenwich Festival, she employed the De Stijl look and *trompe-l'oeils*.

Her style? "I have an *approach*. I'll read a text and see shapes and colours. These are pulled from the characters: from these I create a space. Then I extract what's not needed."

Inspired from infancy? Her parents were restaurateurs. "My sister was always drawing or creating music. I was always looking on. That's a vivid memory. Then as a teenager I started ushering at the Lyric, and I instantly knew I wanted to design."

And her sister? She now works in insurance.

Training: After A levels, she bought a ticket to Paris. There she studied sculpture, returning to do theatre design at Central. Winning a grant got her to France again, where she was assistant designer for Howard Barker's crew, The Wrestling School. She has developed a close relationship with Rae Smith, as assistant designer with 7:84 and with Theatre de Complicite. She first got involved with Complicite on *The Visit*, responding to a notice pinned up at Central calling for helpers at the Almeida.

In the future: Maggiora and Smith are scheduled to co-design for Sheila Hill's new physical theatre company at the Lyric, Hammersmith, later this year.

Film: Besides creating the *mise-en-scène* for an award-winning short, *Crime and Punishment*, Maggiora is one of Edwin Shirley's tiny team setting up The Three Mills Island Studios in the East End, as large as Pinewood, if not as well-equipped yet.

On herself: "I can be strongly determined if I'm sure what I want. I'm a hopeless romantic — which is relevant to the work's importance to me."

On her work: "I don't mind who I work with if the collaboration is there and the work is going to communicate"

KATE BASSETT

CAVE PAINTINGS: The start of art?

Critics aground on rock of ages

The astonishing news this week of the discovery of prehistoric cave paintings in France cuts me, as an art critic, right down to size. I ought, by rights, to know a great deal about the origins of art. But these superbly preserved images, probably produced almost 20,000 years ago, are a complete mystery.

I have no idea who painted these animals, or why there are more than 300 of them spread across the craggy walls. The people responsible for producing them certainly did not dignify themselves with the name of artist. No private view, with wine and cheese, was held to celebrate their completion. The only critics known to have examined them were bears.

My feeling of bewilderment is increased by the news that I won't be able to see these Ice Age marvels. Only scientists, apparently, are being admitted to the newly christened Grotte Chauvet. Preservation is the top priority, and nobody in France seems to care what art experts might think.

It is a frustrating thought. E. H. Gombrich, author of the widely admired *The Story of Art*, admits at the outset of his book: "We do not know how art began any more than we know how language started". Ignorance creates a voracious appetite for knowledge, but even the great cave paintings at Lascaux are now permanently closed to the public. So where on earth can we go to find the "missing link" between prehistoric animal images and the art on view in galleries today?

One answer would be a trip to Egypt. After all, image-making of great skill began to flourish there some 5,000 years ago. The sense of extreme antiquity in the Nile Valley can be quite overpowering. Visitors often feel awed by the vastness of time separating the pharaohs' civilisation from our own.

Even so, a gulf remains. The anonymous hunters who painted their cave walls in private seem utterly removed from the public, sophisticated and highly regimented people who produced Egyptian art. Perhaps the best way of beginning to bridge this chasm is to look at the Cyclades. Here, in a cluster of islands between Greece and Crete, a remarkably beautiful form of figure carving emerged in about 3200BC. Its most striking quality is a refined simplification. Twentieth-century sculptors, from Brancusi to Henry Moore, learnt a profound lesson from Cycladic figurines.

The purging of modern sculpture owes a deep debt to these deceptively small carvings, which stand at the very beginning of Greek art. Although we know little about their use and meaning, the influence they exert is still potent among artists today. Perhaps, in time, the caves will exert the same pull.

RICHARD CORK

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WEST END ENTERTAINMENT

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
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◩ **AIN'T MISBEHAVIN'**: The Fats Waller musical show: an evening of stomping, tapping, exuberant song and dance.
Tricycle, Kilburn High Rd, NW6 (071-328 1000). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Sat, 4pm. Ⓢ

□ **THE CHILDREN'S HOUR**: Clare Higgins and Harriet Walter as two schoolteachers accused of being lovers by a brat student. Lilian Hellman's powerful drama from 1934, directed by Howard Davies.
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Today, 2.15 and 7.30pm. Ⓢ

□ **THE CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE**: Nigel Hawthorne amusing as the dilapidated Lord Ogleby but his direction prettifies and diminishes the play. Some clever supporting performances.
Queens, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5041). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Sat, 2.30pm.

□ **THE COURT JESTER**: Villainous John of Gaunt plots for the crown but is foiled by an energetic jester. Quite jolly, and lively performances.
Warehouse, Dingwall Rd, East Croydon (081-680 4060). Tue, 8.30pm; Wed-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 5pm. Until Jan 29.

◩ **EASTER**: Strindberg's drama of shame, self-pity, penance, clairvoyant joy in nature and the freedom of springtime. Katie Mitchell directs.
Pit, Barbican Centre, EC2 (071-638 8891). Now previewing, 7.15pm; mat Sat, 2pm. Opens Jan 25. Ⓢ

■ **FASCINATING AIDA**: Final performances for the ladies, with an evening of glamour, quick wits and sharp tongues.
Garrick, Charing Cross Rd, WC2 (071-494 5085). Today, 5pm and 8.15pm.

◩ **FEVER PITCH**: The one-man show adapted from Nick Hornby's best-selling account of a lifelong obsession — some would say inexplicable — with Arsenal FC. Stephen North takes us through 45 minutes each way.
Arts, Great Newport Street, WC2 (071-836 2132). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 6.15 and 8.30pm.

◩ **FLORA THE RED MENACE**: Attractive staging of Kander & Ebb's first musical, a surprising story of an all-American girl toying with communism. Lucy Tregear in the role created by Liza Minnelli.
Orange Tree, Clarence Street, Richmond (081-940 3633). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Sat, 4pm and Thurs, 2.30pm. Until Feb 4. Ⓢ

◩ **KILLER JOE**: Utterly absorbing shock-drama by Tracy Letts where a trash trailer family virtually annihilates itself by employing a hit-man to kill their unwanted Mom. Wilson Milam directs the original Chicago production that won a Fringe First at Edinburgh.
Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (081-743 3388). Mon-Sat, 8pm.

◩ **THE LIBERTINE**: Stephen Jeffreys's excellent portrait of the life and times of the rakehell Earl of Rochester in rep with *The Man of Mode*; Max Stafford-Clark directs.
Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 1745). Tonight, 7.30pm, *Man of Mode*, 3.30pm.

□ **LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST**: Jenny Agutter returns to the RSC with new cast for final performances of Ian Judge's pleasing production.
Barbican, Barbican Centre, EC2 (071-638 8891). Now previewing, 2pm and 7.15pm. Opens Jan 31. Ⓢ

◩ **THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR**: Terry Hands's first production here, after his long time in charge of the RSC. Denis Quilley plays the fat knight outwitted by the wives.
National (Olivier), South Bank SE1 (071-928 2252). Now previewing 7.15pm; mat Jan 24, 2pm. Opens Jan 26, 7pm. Ⓢ

□ **PETER PAN - THE BRITISH MUSICAL**: Ron Moody and Nicola Stapleton in a version written, composed and directed by Piers Chater-Robinson. Last day.
Cambridge, Earlham St, WC2 (071-494 5080). 2.30 and 7.30pm.

□ **SUZANNA ANDLER**: Susan Hampshire plays the enigmatic heroine in Marguerite Duras's lyrical drama of late love. Lisa Forrell directs the author's recently revived text.
BAC 1, Lavender Hill, Battersea, SW11 (071-223 2223). Now previewing, 7.30pm. Opens Jan 24; until Feb 26. Ⓢ

■ **A TALE OF TWO CITIES**: Alexis Denisof plays Darnay and Timothy Walker is Sydney Carton in Matthew Francis's version of the Dickens epic. Self-sacrifice, the guillotine and lots of knitting.
Greenwich, Crooms Hill, SE10 (081-858 7755). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Sat, 2.30pm. Until Feb 4. Ⓢ

◩ **THE THREE LIVES OF LUCIE CABROL**: Award-winning performance from Lilo Baur in Simon McBurney's thrilling production on the loves and anguish of peasant life. Theatre de Complicite begin an international tour with five weeks here.
Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399). Now previewing, 7.30pm. Opens Jan 23. Ⓢ

■ **THE THREEPENNY OPERA**: Phyllida Lloyd's splendidly inventive revival of Kurt Weill's opera. Tom Hollander sings Macheath and words by the team of writers customarily known as "Bertolt Brecht".
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham St, WC2 (071-369 1732). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm. Ⓢ

LONG RUNNERS

◩ **Arcadia**: Haymarket (071-930 8800) □ **Beautiful Thing**: Duke of York's (071-836 5122) ... ■ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (071-867 1044) ... ■ **Buddy**: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) ... ■ **Cats**: New London (071-405 0072) ... ■ **Copacabana**: Prince of Wales (071-839 5972) ... ◩ **Crazy for You**: Prince Edward (071-734 8951) □ **Don't Dress for Dinner**: Duchess (071-494 5070) ... ◩ **Five Guys Named Moe**: Lyric (071-494 5045) ... ■ **Grease**: Dominion (071-416 6060) ◩ **An Inspector Calls**: Aldwych, final week (071-836 6404) ... ■ **Les Misérables**: Palace (071-434 0909) ■ **Miss Saigon**: Theatre Royal (071-494 5400) ... ◩ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (071-836 1443) ... ◩ **My Night With Reg**: Criterion (071-839 4488) ... □ **Neville's Island**: Apollo (071-494 5070) ... ■ **Oliver!**: Palladium (071-494 5020) ... □ **On Approval**: Playhouse (071-839 4401) ... □ **Once on This Island**: Island (Royalty) (071-494 5090) ... ◩ **A Passionate Woman**: Comedy (071-369 1731) ... ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) ... □ **The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie**: Strand, until Jan 28 (071-930 8800) ... □ **She Loves Me**: Savoy (071-836 8888) ... ◩ **The Sisters Rosensweig**: Old Vic (071-928 7616) ... ■ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) ... ■ **Sunset Boulevard**: Adelphi (071-344 0055) ... ■ **Three Tall Women**: Wyndhams (071-369 1736) ... ■ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (071-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE** (18): Tom Cruise shows Brad Pitt the vampire way of life. Dull, over-stuffed version of Anne Rice's book. Director, Neil Jordan.
Barbican Ⓢ (071-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (071-498 3323) **MGMs: Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (071-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** Ⓢ (071-727 6705) **Screen/Green** (071-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (071-792 3332) **Warner** Ⓢ (071-437 4343)

ROUGH DIAMONDS (PG): Trials and tribulations of a musically gifted cattle rancher. Stand vehicle for Jason Donovan, directed by Donald Crombie.
MGMs: Haymarket (071-839 1527) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (071-434 0031) **Odeon Kensington** (0426 914666)

THE TIN DRUM (18): Volker Schlöndorff's 1979 adaptation of the Günter Grass novel has lost none of its power. With David Bennent as the stunted boy in Hitler's Europe.
Everyman (071-435 1525) **NFT** (071-928 3232)

WELCOME II THE TERRORDOME (18): Crude, despairing, inflammatory vision of the future from young black British film-maker Ngozi Onwurah.
Electric Ⓢ (071-792 2020) **Metro** (071-437 0757)

CURRENT

AMATEUR (15): Amnesiac pornographer faces his past with a former nun's help. Quirky, touching, pseudo-thriller from Hal Hartley, with Martin Donovan and Isabelle Huppert.
Clapham Picture (071-498 3323) **Lumiere** (071-836 0691) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Renoir** (071-837 8402) **Richmond** (081-332 0030)

EAT DRINK MAN WOMAN (PG): Delectable mosaic of Taipei family life from the director of *The Wedding Banquet*, Ang Lee.
Chelsea (071-351 3742) **Curzon West End** (071-369 1722) **Renoir** (071-837 8402) **Screen/Hill** (071-435 3366)

EVEN COWGIRLS GET THE BLUES (15): Unwieldy version of Tom Robbins's zany novel from cult director Gus Van Sant. Uma Thurman heads a cameo-strewn cast.
MGM Piccadilly (071-437 3561)

◆ **FORREST GUMP** (12): Endearing if indulgent odyssey through post-war America, ideal for baby boomers. With Tom Hanks. Director, Robert Zemeckis
MGM Trocadero Ⓢ (071-434 0031) **NFT** (071-928 3232) **Odeon Mezzanine** Ⓢ (0426 915683) **Plaza** (0800 888997)

◆ **JUNIOR** (PG): Juvenile jokes abound as Arnold Schwarzenegger gets pregnant. With Emma Thompson and Danny DeVito. Director, Ivan Reitman.
Empire (0800-888 911) **MGMs: Fulham Road** Ⓢ (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (071-792 3332)

THE LAST SEDUCTION (18): Enjoyably amoral tale of sex, power and $700,000, with Linda Fiorentino as the femme fatale to end them all. Director, John Dahl
MGM Piccadilly (071-437 3561)

LOVE, CHEAT & STEAL (18): Failed film noir from new director William Curran, with Madchen Amick, John Lithgow and Eric Roberts.
MGM Piccadilly (071-437 3561)

THE MASK (PG): Strange mask turns mild bank employee into a wisecracking demon. Inventive vehicle for rubber-faced Jim Carrey, filled with the antic spirit of 1940s cartoons.
Odeon Mezzanine Ⓢ (0426 915683) **Warner** Ⓢ (071-437 4343)

◆ **THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS** (PG): The King of Hallowe'en tries to take over Christmas. Technically brilliant puppet fantasy conceived by Tim Burton, directed by Henry Selick.
Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666) **Mezzanine** Ⓢ (0426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098)

◆ **NOSTRADAMUS** (15): Life and prophecies of the 16th-century legend. Preposterous Euro-pudding, with Tcheky Karyo and Amanda Plummer.
MGM Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666), **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **West End** (0426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (071-792 3332)

◆ **THE PAGEMASTER** (U): Macaulay Culkin, in cartoon form, enjoys bland adventures in the world of books. Joe Johnston and Maurice Hunt direct.
Odeon Kensington (0426 914666) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (071-792 3332)

◆ **PRINCESS CARABOO** (PG): Airy, amusing historical diversion, with Phoebe Cates as the mysterious girl believed to be a Far Eastern princess. With Jim Broadbent, John Lithgow, Stephen Rea, Wendy Hughes. Director, Michael Austin.
MGM Trocadero Ⓢ (071-434 0031)

◆ **PULP FICTION** (18): Quentin Tarantino's flamboyant crime epic weaves together three tales from the LA underworld. With John Travolta, Bruce Willis and Samuel L. Jackson
MGMs: Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Fulham Road** Ⓢ (071-370 2636) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (071-792 3332) **Warner** Ⓢ (071-437 4343)

LA REINE MARGOT (18): Bloody, brooding, occasionally impressive French history lesson, with Isabelle Adjani and Daniel Auteuil. Director, Patrice Chéreau.
Curzon Mayfair (071-369 1720) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426-914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098)

SHALLOW GRAVE (18): Danny Boyle's wickedly enjoyable comedy-thriller about three Edinburgh chums and a corpse loaded with money.
Gate Ⓢ (071-727 4043) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Screen/Baker Street** (071-935 2772) **Warner** Ⓢ (071-437 4343)

SHORT CUTS (18): Robert Altman's dazzling kaleidoscope of fractured lives in Los Angeles. The superb cast includes Andie MacDowell, Bruce Davison, Tim Robbins, Matthew Modine and Lily Tomlin.
Gate Ⓢ Sun only (071-727 4043)

◆ **THE SPECIALIST** (15): Sharon Stone hires explosives expert Sylvester Stallone to avenge her parents' murder. Empty concoction that wastes its stars. With James Woods, Eric Roberts, Rod Steiger. Director, Luis Llosa.
MGMs: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (071-792 3332) **Warner** Ⓢ (071-437 4343)

SPEED (15): Enjoyable package of thrills, with Keanu Reeves as the SWAT team daredevil faced with a bomb on an LA bus. With Sandra Bullock and Dennis Hopper.
Odeon Mezzanine Ⓢ (0426 915683)

◆ **STARGATE** (PG): See Critics' Choice, page 2.

THREE COLOURS: RED (15): Kieślowski's compelling film about criss-crossing lives; a majestic climax to his trilogy. With Irène Jacob and Jean-Louis Trintignant.
MGM Panton Street (071-930 0631) **Minema** (071-235 4225)

◆ **TIMECOP** (18): Tedious, violent tale of Jean-Claude Van Damme's time-travelling cop. Director, Peter Hyams.
Empire Ⓢ (0800 888911) Ⓢ **MGMs: Fulham Rd** (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3303)

VANYA ON 42ND STREET (U): Absorbing film of Andre Gregory's treatment of "Uncle Vanya", caught in rehearsal by Louis Malle's cameras at a decrepit New York theatre. Wallace Shawn, Julianne Moore, Brooke Smith and George Gaynes head the fine cast.
Curzon Phoenix (071-369 1721) **Phoenix** (081-883 2233)

NEW ON VIDEO: A cop howls in the dark; a celebration of the masters of light

Harvey Keitel as a depraved New York policeman clutching at salvation, in Abel Ferrara's volcanic *Bad Lieutenant*

■ ***BAD LIEUTENANT***
Guild, 18, 1992
AFTER spending last year in custody awaiting sentence by the British Board of Film Classification, Abel Ferrara's uncomfortable study of a depraved New York cop finally emerges on video. Harvey Keitel gives an astonishing performance as the nameless hero, howling with pain, clutching at a glimpse of salvation. Ferrara sometimes pushes his luck, needlessly lingering over unsavoury sights, but the film overall has a volcanic force that cannot be denied. Available to rent.

■ **CITY OF WOMEN**
Artificial Eye, 18, 1980
IN which Marcello Mastroianni, an ageing Casanova, explores a dream landscape almost entirely populated by women, yells "You gorgeous cow!" at a passing beauty, falls upon a feminist's convention, imagines a movie house as a masturbator's paradise, and is ultimately put on trial for his sexual attitudes. A Fellini film, of course: not his best, but flamboyantly staged, full of quirky comedy and offering all the pleasures of familiar ground being vigorously raked over by an old master.

■ **GERONIMO**
Columbia TriStar, 12, 1993
WESTERNS had more excitement when Hollywood Indians were painted devils. As Native Americans, they need respectful treatment, and liberal breasts need to be beaten. In documenting the US Army's final push against the legendary Apache chief (a grim-faced Wes Studi), director Walter Hill appears overwhelmed by the sadness of it all but creates little sense of drama to push the story forward. Jason Patric tops the cast as the lieutenant ordered to bring in the warrior; Gene Hackman and Robert Duvall do their best in smaller roles. Available to rent.

■ **THE MONASTERY OF SENDOMIR**
Redemption, U, 1919
EMBLAZONED with the picture of a breast-clutching damsel that has nothing whatever to do with the film, Victor Sjöström's long-forgotten drama about a nobleman's discovery of his unfaithful wife arrives on video in an attractive print that gives some indication of the high visual standards of Swedish silent cinema. But the slim story and stodgy handling should confine this release to curio collectors only.

■ **LONDON**
Academy, U, 1994
ELECTRIFYING, unclassifiable portrait of a city in decay from architect-turned-film-maker Patrick Keiller. The film retraces the wanderings of Paul Scofield's narrator and an equally invisible friend who views the city through eyes steeped in French literary visionaries such as Rimbaud and Verlaine. Early Greenaway comes to mind with the witty interplay between narration and images. But no Greenaway film can match Keiller's for sheer polemical punch.

■ **VISIONS OF LIGHT**
Academy, PG, 1992
FASCINATING, much-needed documentary on the art of (mostly American) cinematography, guaranteed to instil new respect for the way the best cameramen use light and lenses as a painter uses a brush and palette. Twenty-nine interviewees and 125 film clips tell the story, which covers the worshipful treatment of Greta Garbo, the shadows and low angles of film noir, and the incredible beauties Nestor Almendros achieved in *Days of Heaven*.

GEOFF BROWN

Can you tell a Brit from a Brat?

Awards ceremonies, even "alternative" ones, are no more than orgies of self-congratulation

In idle moments, I sometimes mull over a science fiction novel that will never be written. The plot goes something like this: in the future, all media and arts anniversaries, competitions and awards ceremonies have been banished off-world to a distant star. There they thrive — Oscars and Baftas, Bookers and Mercurys, Brits and Brats — in the glow of their own self-satisfaction, until gasses generated by verbosity and hypocrisy ignite and blow them all to kingdom come.

Ah, fantasy. Down here on earth they remain, their gaseous emissions made more toxic by the addition of sour-grape fumes. So bring on the next nomination for best televisual backslapper of the year: the Brits awards for Rock and Pop Excellence. I say excellence, some might say mediocrity, for the Brits panel has been notable over the years for picking woefully average but highly visible talents in preference to the inspired but obscure.

Stung by this public dismissal of all that is unruly, good at wrecking hotel rooms or simply unsaleable, the *NME* organised its own little celebration: the Brats. Double-stung by this counter blow, and by criticism that the Brits were nothing more than an excuse to wheel out major-label money-spinners in front of a prime-time television audience, the Brits judges discovered that there was life on other planets.

Artists such as Björk and Stereo MCs won awards in handfuls. Incomprehensible acceptance speeches flourished. Except for minor style details, such as the sea of formal evening wear that ebbs and flows at the foot of the Brits stage, the Brits and Brats threatened to become identical.

A philosopher might argue that they were two sides of the same coin anyway but the sad contradiction of the transformation of the Brits was this: as the voting broadened to recognise that there was new music happening in the 1990s, flourishing beyond the mainstream, so the ceremony smoothed its rough edges and swept embarrassments under the carpet. Gloriously idiotic moments of past shows such as Samantha Fox's somewhat unfocused entry into the presentation business or the KLF's plan to splatter the audience with sheep's blood have been exorcised in favour of the "wheel 'em on, wheel 'em off" approach and the misguidedly risqué jokes of Elton John.

Is it naive to ask what all these ceremonies are for? Surely the Brats (on Tuesday) are a pathetic legitimisation of the whole divisive process, aimed at people who gag at the sight of winners being hugged by furious losers or speeches which confirm suspicions that the triumphant recipient has a dwindling control over basic motor functions? As for the Brits (February 20), they are supposed to celebrate the marvels of the British record industry. A few drinks after their award, most musicians would bitterly deny those marvels. Why, some unkind people have even suggested that record company MDs simply vote for their own artists. Surely not.

There is a question that every critic of award ceremonies must address to their own hearts. In the unlikely event of this article being nominated as best attack on the Brits, would I rush up to collect my statuette, top button undone to register my disdain? As it happens, I do own a dinner suit, an Armani job, left over from a judging commitment at some jazz competition in the 1980s. If I take a pair of scissors to the lapels, it might pass muster.

DAVID TOOP

Rush through the Highbury turnstiles and on to the terraces with *Fever Pitch* and Arsenal's Gooner army of one

Keep your eye on the ball

THE TIMES
THE THEATRE CLUB

NINETY minutes (no extra time) of fast, funny and exhilarating theatre, adapted from Nick Hornby's award-winning bestseller, *Fever Pitch* is a tale of obsession, football, masculinity, class, identity, loyalty and joy. A tale, in other words, of one man's love for 11 other men. The book, and now the play, provides a hilarious insight into Hornby's fixation with Arsenal football club which has lasted for more than a quarter of a century.

"I have measured my life out in Arsenal fixtures," he says. "When did my first real love affair end? The day after a disappointing 2-2 draw with Coventry." Starring Stephen North playing in a 1-1-1 formation as Hornby, *Fever Pitch* is enjoying a home fixture at the Arts Theatre in Great Newport Street, WC2, after a series of away matches throughout the country and a season to remember at the Edinburgh Festival.

Theatre Club members can buy tickets for £10 (normal price £14) for performances from January 23 to 26. Telephone 071-836 2132 to book, quoting your Theatre Club membership number

THIS WEEK'S SPECIALS

HARROGATE
Harrogate Theatre
Jan 27
● DAVID Mamet's *Oleanna* provoked controversy when it opened in London in 1993. This intense two-hander chronicles the results of an accusation by a student that she has been sexually harassed by her lecturer. Club members can buy two full-price stalls or circle seats for the price of one, with a free programme and pre-show talk. Tel 01423 502116

LEICESTER
Haymarket
Feb 2-25
● SARAH Casey, a travel agent who has never been anywhere, meets the mysterious Elston Rupp in a run-down bar in New York. Who is Rupp? A lawyer? A serial killer? Both — or neither? Casey leaves with him and is never seen again. *Disappeared*, by Phyllis Nagy, writer of *Butterfly Kiss*, reconstructs the series of events leading to the fateful meeting, and explores the impact Casey's disappearance has on those around her. Theatre Club members can buy tickets for £5 (normal price £9). Tel 0116 2539797

Stephen North as diehard Arsenal fanatic Nick Hornby in *Fever Pitch* — see first item

SOUTHAMPTON
Nuffield Theatre
Feb 2-25
● STEVE Gooch's *Dark Glory* charts the wonderful early years of Alfred, Lord Tennyson and celebrates the beginnings of a remarkable talent. For many, Tennyson *was* the Victorian age. As Poet Laureate at the height of great colonial power he was the voice of a society that believed anything was possible. Confident and self-assured, he achieved a fame most of us only dream about. But things were very different during his early days ... Club members can buy tickets for £4.95 and £6.95 on Feb 2 and 6 (normally £6.95 and £8.95) and for £5.95 and £7.95 (normal prices £7.95 and £9.95) for Monday to Thursday performances from February 7. Tel 01703 671771

● JAMES Hilton's endearing and enduring Mr Chips is the ultimate schoolteacher, a man who can remember the pupils he has taught, the games they played, the pranks they pulled. But his calm exterior hides another chapter of passionate reminiscences. In *Goodbye, Mr Chips*, the part is played by Roger Hume. Club members can buy two tickets for the price of one at the following venues:

Watermill Theatre, Nr Newbury. Feb 14. Tickets normally £6.50. Tel 01635 46044
Poole Arts Centre, Poole. Mar 20. Tickets normally £7.50. Tel 01202 685222
Wilde Theatre, Bracknell. Mar 30. Tickets normally £9. Tel 01344 484123
Brewhouse Theatre, Taunton. April 4. Tickets normally £9.50. Tel 01823 283244
Theatre Royal, Bury St Edmunds. Apr 11. Tickets normally £11. Tel 01284 769505
Theatre Royal, Lincoln. Apr 18. Tickets normally £11. Tel 01522 525555
The Playhouse, Harlow. Apr 25. Tickets normally £7.50. Tel 01279 431945
Lawrence Batley Theatre, Huddersfield. May 1. Tickets normally £7. Tel 01484 430528

TO JOIN the Theatre Club either send a cheque for £12.50, made payable to The Theatre Club, together with your name, address and telephone number to The Theatre Club, P.O. Box 2164, Colchester CO1 1GN, or telephone 0206 791737 using your credit card. For general inquiries call 071-387 9673

TO BOOK for any or all of this week's special offers, please phone the listed number during normal office hours. The price printed on the ticket you receive will be the special price negotiated by the Theatre Club.

RECORDINGS: Celebrating the mambo king; Tippett at 90; the Bekova Sisters' impressive Rachmaninov; and a *Ring* of confidence

JAZZ

Clive Davis

■ CACHAO
Master Sessions, Volume I
Crescent Moon/Epic
477282-2★★★

HIS name may not be familiar, but if you have ever heard or danced to a mambo — even a bland, Mecca-nised one — then you have been touched by the music of Israel López, forever known to friends and associates as "Cachao". A father figure to Afro-Cuban artists, he served his apprenticeship in Havana in the prewar years, playing in bass sections in dance halls while also finding time to serve in the Havana Philharmonic under the baton of the exiled Erich Kleiber.

López helped make the rhythms of the mambo part of popular currency, first in Cuba, then in the wider world after he settled in America. *Master Sessions*, an off-shoot of a film documentary made by the movie actor and heart-throb Andy Garcia, constitutes a glorious overview of an epic career, demonstrating just how varied and resourceful the best Latin music can be.

The 12 pieces examine, with near-clinical precision, the many permutations of dance rhythms, from the stately cadences of the danzón, with its multiple strains and sprightly rondo structure, to the more visceral ambience of the rumba. At intervals, the musicians also take the opportunity to break into a descarga, the dazzling Cuban equivalent of a jam session, where improvisatory skill is all that counts.

The mood is established in the opening two pieces. Barely a minute long, "Ai Fin Te Vi" is derived from a traditional form of contradanza and scored for just López's nimble double bass and the clarinet of Paquito D'Rivera. After so many years of hearing D'Rivera rattle off scorching bop lines, it is all the more refreshing to hear him play with a more relaxed pulse and the broader "classical" tone that he deploys on this session.

After the final note of this prelude dies away, a flute and a compact battery of strings and percussion announce the opening sequence of the first danzón, "Isora Club". Not too large to overwhelm the other instruments or drench the melody in syrup, the violin section adds just the right element of formality.

Some of the other pieces rely more explicitly on Afro-Cuban drumming and chanting, blending the traditions of the Caribbean, South America and Europe. "El Alcalde" fuses melody and spoken word, Garcia reciting his adaptation of Lorca's poem "Son de Negros En Cuba" before the musicians enter with their own intoxicating anthem.

Master Sessions more than lives up to its title.

Cachao (left) and Andy Garcia: the *Master Sessions* set pays well-deserved and exuberant tribute to the father figure of Afro-Cuban music

[illegible]

David Sinclair

■ SEVEN DAY DIARY
"Out Of His Mind"
Reprise 9362-41915★★

BUILT around the songwriting axis of Pamela Laws (vocals/guitar) and Nancy Hess (vocals/bass), Seven Day Diary from San Francisco ply an alternative rock sound derived as much from traditional folk and blues as from latterday influences such as Throwing Muses and R.E.M.

Seven Day Diary: edgy

The result on their debut EP, "Out Of His Mind", sounds at times like an American version of P.J. Harvey with harmonies. "My tears scatter like confetti/But this is no parade, more like a death march," they sing mournfully at the start of the title track before Matt Boudreau's warlike tom-tom pattern ushers in the strangely ululating chorus.

Ken Weller's freak-flag guitar soloing, especially in "Hardtimes", puts some heavier flesh on the bones of an edgy and unusually seductive sound.

[illegible]

David Sinclair

■ BETTIE SERVEERT
Lamprey
Beggars Banquet BBQ 169★★

A SPECTACULARLY unpleasant, eel-like creature that feeds on the blood of other fish, the lamprey seems an odd choice of animal to adopt as the title of a record, especially one as gracefully executed as the second album by Dutch quartet Bettie Serveert. But even when the band is negotiating passages of near-stillness or conjuring a mood of tenderness, there is a distinctive thread of tension lurking beneath the surface calm.

Canadian-born singer Carol van Dijk has one of those vixen-waif voices more commonly associated with Irish women called Dolores or Sinéad. She can sound sad, steely, vulnerable and violent all in a single song and frequently does, while behind her, guitarist Peter Visser steers the numbers from delicate opening verse to volcanic climax and back again.

For an album proceeding from a basic indie-rock, guitar-band format — give or take the hint of a string section on "D. Feathers" — *Lamprey* is an extraordinarily haunting musical experience. It is the stuff that dreams are made of: some of them sweet and forlorn, others deep and murky.

[illegible]

Stephen Pettitt

■ TIPPETT
Symphony No 1/Piano Concerto
Shelley/Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra/Hickox
Chandos CHAN 9333★★★

Choral works
Finzi Singers/Spicer
Chandos CHAN 9265★★★

THE celebratory year for Sir Michael Tippett's ninetieth birthday will see many a seriously-intended reassessment and will also bring more recordings, some, with luck, rescued from the archives.

Chandos has now completed its excellent series of all four symphonies, played by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Richard Hickox, with this rich account of the First Symphony of 1945, generously coupled with the sometimes robust, sometimes magically shimmering Piano Concerto of 1955, in which Howard Shelley is the lithe-fingered soloist. Warm-toned yet tough, these performances are dominated by that muscularity that characterises most of what has come from Tippett's pen in the past half-century.

Almost inevitably the disc of Tippett's shorter, unaccompanied choral works ends with perhaps his most famous music, the Five Negro Spirituals from *A Child of Our Time*, as pertinent today as ever.

The composer's skill in writing challengingly for chorus is equally evident in his settings of such words as Christopher Fry's coronation madrigal "Dance, Clarion Air" and in the somewhat tarter "Lullaby", while the arrangements of *Four Songs from the British Isles* (1956) are quite lovely. The Finzi Singers project the music with intensity and with impeccable tuning, each piece shaped with loving care by their director, Paul Spicer.

ORCHESTRAL

Barry Millington

■ ELGAR
Enigma Variations; Falstaff; Incidental Music for Grania and Diarmid
CBSO/Rattle
EMI CDC 5 55001 2★★★

□ ELGAR
Enigma Variations
DEBUSSY
Images
Berlin Philharmonic
Orchestra/Levine
Sony SK 53284★

INCREDIBLE as it may seem, this is the first time the Berlin Philharmonic has recorded the *Enigma Variations*. Its playing is immaculate, but it is a pity that the debut should have taken place under the baton of James Levine, a conductor whose shortcomings are mercilessly exposed when the performance is set alongside another new one from Simon Rattle and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra.

The opening announcement of the theme sets them apart immediately. Levine pulls it this way and that, imposing a far greater expressive burden on it than it is intended to bear. Rattle treats it, properly, as a theme for variations, yet without neglecting its expressive potential, and his performance generally is marked by his ear for detail.

Nevertheless, there are some good things in Levine's performance: the severity and melancholy underlying the passion in "R.P.A." (Matthew Arnold's son, Richard), the poise and delicacy of "Dorabella", the high-spirited vigour of "G.R.S." and his bulldog.

Perhaps surprisingly, he takes less time over "Nimrod" than Rattle, compensating with a more melodramatic crescendo and greater bluster; yet this portrait is only marginally less moving than Rattle's.

Similarly Levine's finale (unfortunately lacking the ad lib organ) is otherwise perfectly satisfactory and effective, even if it has not quite Rattle's sense of authentic Elgarian swing, the Edwardian swagger, the public confidence that conceals a thousand private griefs.

Levine's *Enigma*, recorded live in the Philharmonie, Berlin, is coupled with Debussy's *Images*. The Rattle disc also includes a splendid account of *Falstaff* (helpfully cued with the composer's own divisions) and the rarely heard incidental music and funeral march for *Grania and Diarmid*.

OPERA

John Higgins

■ WAGNER
Götterdämmerung
Evans/Bundschuh/Jerusalem/Brinkmann/Kang/Bayreuth Festival Orchestra/Barenboim
Teldec 4509-94194-2
(4 CDs)★★

TELDEC let the Kupfer-Barenboim *Ring* at Bayreuth mature for a year or two before taking its recording equipment and cameras into the theatre. Both the discs and the video (Teldec 4509-91494-3) of *Götterdämmerung* are drawn from the 1991 cycle, by which time all the principals were experienced Bayreuth hands. Call this the *Ring* of confidence: everyone sings and performs as though they know exactly what is required.

Much of *Götterdämmerung* is dominated by the Siegfried of Herr Jerusalem of the same name. It is a marvellously extrovert performance, exuberant and carefree until Hagen's spear goes into his back. Jerusalem delivers the account of the apprenticeship to Mime in thrilling voice and still has all the resources left for the death scene.

The Korean bass, Philip Kang, makes Hagen a fearsome opponent, whose pungent delivery is designed to hurt. He makes every dark utterance tell. Anne Evans, the Brünnhilde, quite rightly saves her best until last. She rather overdoes the confusion when Brünnhilde is brought into the Gibichungs' hall, where the delivery is too cloudy and the diction indistinct. But once the timber is being collected for the (understage) funeral pyre, the voice begins to glow like the flames to come.

The supporting cast, led by Bodo Brinkmann and Eva-Maria Bundschuh as Gunther and Gutrune, is solid rather than inspiring. The Norns and Rhinemaidens could be a bit more enticing. But Barenboim's overall command is never in doubt. He may hold back his orchestra from time to time out of deference to his singers, but when the big moments come, the Bayeuth orchestra fairly blazes away.

CHAMBER

Hilary Finch

■ RACHMANINOV
Trios élégiaques
Bekova Sisters
Chandos CHAN 9392★★★

WHEN the Moscow Trio played Rachmaninov's Trio élégiaque No 2 in D minor in 1903, the composer claimed that they had made him at last love the work. Nearly a century later, the Bekova Sisters will win even more admirers for the piece in their perceptive and imaginative Chandos recording debut.

The long first movement is beautifully paced, with the piano's little repetitive chromatic figure like a wave breaking, steadily and timelessly, over each successive voice. The piano edges forward gradually as soloist as the music develops into a concerto *manqué*; and it is the tintinnabulation of Eleonora Bekova's fingers, as much as the numb duet between violin and cello, which so hauntingly colours the slow movement's varations.

Bekova Sisters: poised

The Bekova Sisters twin this work with the single-movement Trio élégiaque in G minor. Their playing here is admirably light and finely poised. Slav fanciers may well detect the edge of temperament and colour in the Bekovas' playing: I, for one, have no complaints.

★ *Worth hearing*
★★ *Worth considering*
★★★ *Worth buying*

THE TIMES

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See page 21

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GARDENING

Conservatories can be a bower of beauty. **George Plumptre**, The Times Gardener, explains how

Hothouse flowers for all seasons

Building a conservatory on to your home may soak up the money, but once it is completed the rewarding stage begins: choosing the plants.

For the best results, plants should have priority positions, with furniture fitted around them, rather than vice versa. And remember that conservatory conditions encourage fast, strong plant growth, which can overwhelm the room. I recall visiting a garden with an enormous Victorian conservatory about 30ft high, but not tall enough to contain a mimosa tree, which had broken through the glass roof panels.

Another priority of conservatory planting is to make a balance between a minority of permanent plants and a wider selection of smaller, often temporary, ones, which might be bulbs or tender annuals.

Without the constraints of frost-hardiness, which usually dictates what we grow in our gardens, the range of plants suitable for a conservatory is large. So it is important to be selective, especially with the permanent plants that will provide a framework.

One of the advantages that many conservatories offer is the opportunity to plant against a back wall. If you know you are going to be able to plant against the wall permanently, I suggest you build a raised bed the length of the (suitably damp-proofed) wall, about 18in high and with a retaining wall at the front in brick, stone or wood. An effective finishing touch would be to cap the wall with flat tiles for sitting on.

Make a firm base of hardcore inside the bed to encourage good drainage, and ensure that the wall has small drainage outlets near the foot. The best growing mixture for the bed is soil with some peat incorporated, as well as organic compost and leaf mould.

This kind of bed is ideal for climbers. Many conservatory climbers provide continuous evergreen foliage; they are exciting because they look exotic and, often, smell delicious. A good example is *Hoya carnosa*, which produces hanging clusters of waxy white and pink fragrant flowers. It grows reasonably slowly and usually will not flower for two years. But it is worth the wait. Even more strongly scented is *Jasminum polyanthum*. If you have an internal pole or other support, the jasmine can be trained up it. This way you can control its unruly tendency by pruning all round after it has finished producing its luxuriantly-scented pinky white flowers.

Two other ideal conservatory climbers, also both evergreen, are *Lapageria rosea*, the Chilean bell-flower, and one of my favourites, *Plumbago auriculata* (also called *P. capensis*). Lapageria is a twining plant which produces bell-shaped, pinky-crimson flowers from late summer and prefers to be slightly shaded. Plumbago flowers around the same time, its clusters of small, pale blue flowers giving a contrast to the showy lapageria bells.

One of the rewards of conservatory gardening is being able to have flowers in winter and late spring. I am not a rhododendron devotee, but the tender, scented varieties make superb conservatory plants in large pots, and will often begin flowering in February. Two of the best are *Rhododendron* 'fragrantissimum', and *R.* 'Countess of Haddington', both of which produce pink-flushed white flowers with a wonderful scent. They can be moved outside during the summer and replaced by something which flowers at this time of year.

If you are unable to build permanent beds in the conservatory, an effective way to give height to your plants is to put up shelves, possibly tiered, on which to arrange pots. You can have trailing plants such as 'Morning Glory' or the exotic Mexican plant *Rhodochiton atrosanguineum*, with purple umbrella-like flowers tumbling off the upper shelves. Such an arrangement offers constant variety if you have a greenhouse and can move plants in and out as they come in to flower.

Whatever plants you grow, they will do best if you are vigilant about their care. Conservatory conditions are conducive not only to the growth of plants but also of pests and diseases. Good ventilation, feeding your plants and spraying the foliage with water or a mild soapy solution, and tidying up dead flowers and foliage quickly, are all important.

Most of the pests will be brought into your conservatory on new plants, so always check that newcomers are healthy before you introduce them into the colony, where a small outbreak can rapidly become an epidemic. For this reason, it is worth buying from a nursery that specialises in conservatory plants, where you will be able to choose from a good range and get growing and maintenance tips.

- *These nurseries offer a wide range of conservatory plants: Tendercare Nurseries, Uxbridge, Middlesex (0895 835544); Newington Nursery, Chewton Mendip, Somerset (0761 241283); Long Man Gardens, Polegate, East Sussex (0323 870816); Romantic Garden Nursery, Norwich (0603 261488); Tropicana Nursery, Torquay, Devon (0803 312618); Westdale Nurseries, Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire (0225 863258); Fleur de Lys, Petworth, West Sussex (0798 343742).*

Lapageria rosea

THE GARDEN PICTURE LIBRARY

Plants for the conservatory: from left, *Hoya carnosa*, *Rhodochiton atrosanguineum* and *Ipomea acuminata*

Jasminum polyanthum

Plumbago capensis

WEEKEND TIPS

- *Clean the shallot bulbs you stored in late summer ready for planting out in February. Select the best bulbs with a diameter of about 1¼ in. Nip off the top strig, or stem, to prevent birds pulling up the bulbs after planting.*
- *Consult catalogues to choose vegetable seeds and plan what you are going to grow this year. Planning may enable you to do some double-cropping on one piece of ground, following an early summer crop with a winter one.*
- *Sow hardy geranium seed into a tray in a propagator.*

GARDEN ANSWERS

STEPHEN ANDERTON
replies to readers' letters

Q **There is a 6ft-high chain-link fence between my garden and a farmyard. I would like to cover this with hedging or climbers. What can you suggest that will not be poisonous or harmful to the farm animals?** — A. Spencer, Leeds.

A Any climber grown on your fence, poisonous or otherwise, will at some time be eaten by passing animals. Unless you are prepared to erect a second, inner fence or trellis, I would forget climbers and plant a hedge, making sure that enough room is left between the fence for you to trim it when it is mature.

Yew, laurel and rhododendron are harmful to animals. Choose something with soft, young shoots and small leaves, which the animals can graze into line. Hornbeam or beech would do, and they keep their leaves in winter. Thorn and holly will be grazed willingly enough when young, despite the spines. Forms of Leyland or Lawson cypress, or *Thuja plicata*, would do, but they are more likely to look shabby from browsing.

Q **Can you suggest some plants for a small, double-glazed porch. They should be able to stand bright summer sun and winter cold.** — Trisha Sale, London SW12.

A In such a small space there can be no room for plants which will be leafless or insignificant for half the year. I would opt for evergreens or succulents that flower well. (Those never-changing fat cacti are, to my eye, dreary.)

In London, a double-glazed porch attached to a heated house should not drop below freezing, except perhaps in exceptionally cold winters. And there are plenty of sun-and-drought-loving plants which will be content with a winter temperature of -5C. Try some of the pelargoniums, such as *P. quercifolium*, or those with scented foliage, but keep them on a lean diet to restrict their size. Flowering will not be impaired.

Of the succulents, *Echevaria harmsii* is a miniature shrub with orange trumpet flowers, and is easy to grow. Carpobrotus and lampranthus, which could be used to trail from the sills, have starry daisy flowers. *Lampranthus deltoides* is a pretty, grey-leaved shrublet with triangular leaves, reddish stems and pink, almond-scented flowers. *Sedum lineare* 'Variegatum' has needle-like creamy leaves on weeping stems.

Continuing the grey theme, try *Othonnopsis cheirifolia*, another trailer with paddle-shaped grey leaves and yellow daisy flowers. It survives outdoors, but in a cold greenhouse is more attractive.

- *Readers wishing to have gardening problems answered should write to: Garden Answers, Weekend,* The Times, *1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. We regret that few personal answers can be given and that it may not be possible to deal with every request. Advice is offered without legal responsibility.* The Times *regrets that that enclosures accompanying letters cannot be returned.*

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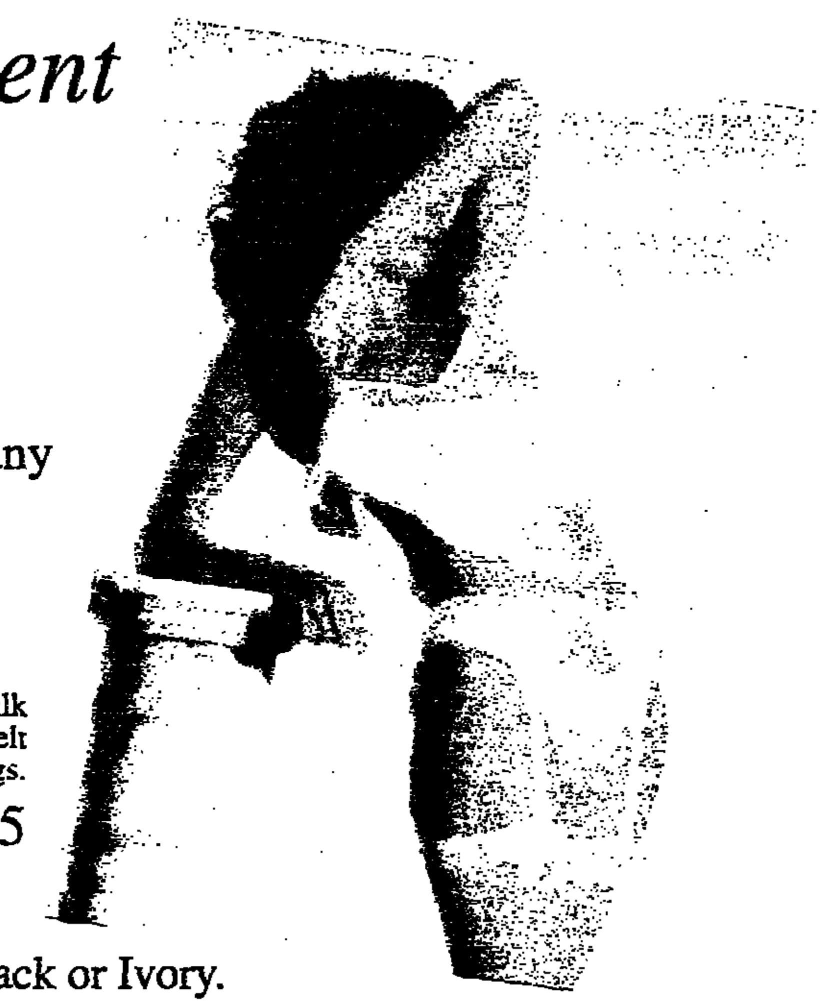

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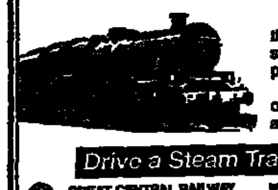

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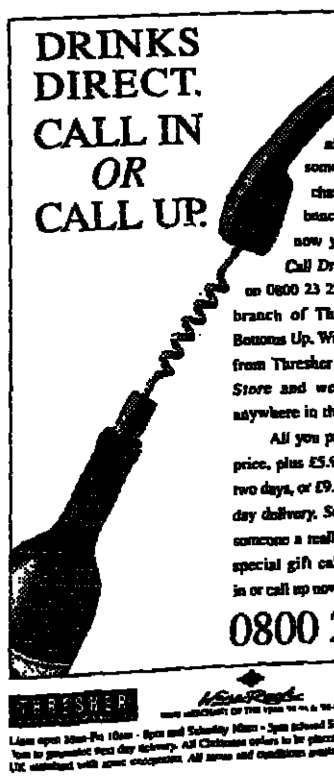

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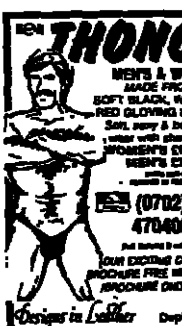

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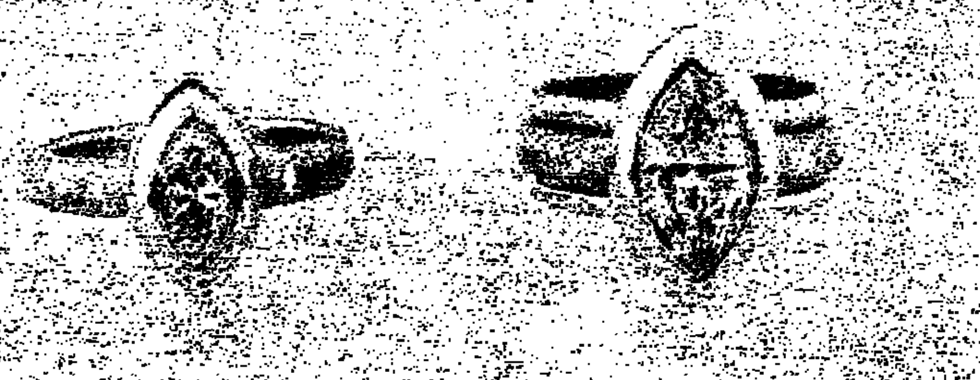

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COLLECTING

American comic-book stars in their thousands are up for sale at next Saturday's comic mart in London. **Giles Coren** reports

DENZIL McNEELANCE

Mike Lake used to own one of the best collections outside America. "I bought comics I thought were beautiful," he says. "The investment wasn't a concern"

Take home a superhero

EVERY TWO months for the past 20 years, comic collectors from all over Europe have gathered at Westminster Central Hall for the biggest and best-established comic mart in the country. Next Saturday more than 4,000 enthusiasts will gather to buy, sell, or pay their respects to a quarter of a million comics at 250 tables hired by comic stores, private collectors, and amateur fans.

These are not *Beano* comics, or *Roy of the Rovers*, but the four-colour superhero variety of American myth — Batman, Spiderman, The Incredible Hulk. As a result, interest, though high, has never quite scaled the heights it has in America, where the Dow Jones Commodity Index has recognised comics as the fourth-best investment opportunity after precious metals, diamonds, and fine art.

The mart is organised by Mike Lake, one of the biggest names in British comics. He recently sold his one-third share of a £15 million-a-year business, which included Britain's first comic-store chain, Forbidden Planet — a business he started as a long-haired, comic-crazy, failed accountant in the 1970s.

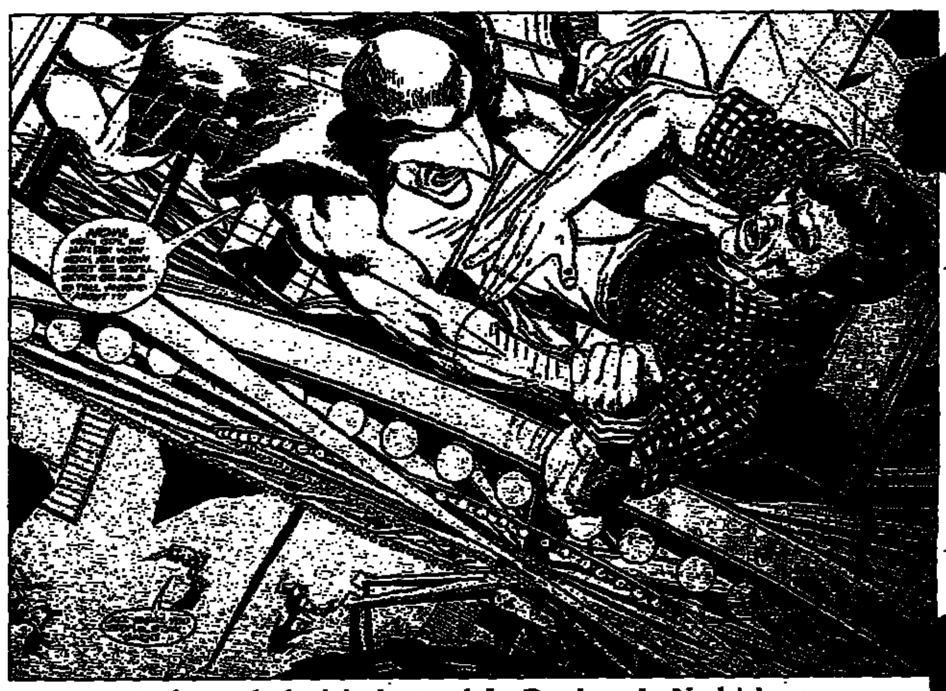
Mr Lake has made a career, a life and a fortune out of lantern-jawed fantasy figures in loud pyjamas, but there is one thing that makes his flesh crawl like Plastic Man's elastic epidermis. "I get so angry," he says, "when I read a piece on comics in the press, and I see '*Action Comics* number one' and 'a hundred thousand dollars' in the first sentence. It is vulgar, it is irrelevant, and it attracts all the wrong people."

But it is inevitable that a genre perceived, in Britain, as the exclusive preserve of schoolboys and trainspotters, should only make the papers when big money stories come around. And they do. First appearances of major characters — Superman, The Flash, The Fantastic Four and Captain America — regularly fetch tens of thousands of pounds. And even standard comics from the Golden Age (the late 1930s to the early 1950s) retail, in collectable condition, from £50 into the thousands.

"All these sorts of comics will be at the mart, as well as original artwork to break your heart," Mr Lake says.

He is the epitome of a true collector. He used to own one of the best collections outside America, he says, until two years ago when he lost £100,000 worth of comics in a burglary. "All my early Fantastic Fours and Captain Americas were taken."

But comics are not his only passion: there is a collection of huskies and a collection of cars. "After I got divorced," he says, "I decided to make some changes. I had to get out from under this comic collection, mentally. So I sold about 400 and bought a 1971 Ferrari Daytona." He also has a Lamborghini Countach.



Action-packed original artwork for *Deadman* by Neal Adams

Then there are the toys, from plastic dinosaurs to electric haunted houses; the bubble-gum cards; an immense record collection; and drawers bursting with newspaper cartoon strips.

As far as advice goes to first-timers at the mart, he says: "If you don't know comics, start small. There will be thousands of comics for less than 50p; they will give you an idea of what you like. I only ever bought comics I thought were beautiful — the investment wasn't a concern.

"You can buy a beautiful 1950s horror comic for a fiver, or 1960s comics from the American publishers Marvel and DC for a few quid." These "Silver Age" comics, however, are becoming increasingly rare as more collectors enter the market. They are now suffering the same price boom as the Golden Age comics, due to what Mr Lake sees as a cartel of American collectors paying over the odds for rare items and stockpiling them.

"If you are just interested in the investment, there is only one rule: buy the major issues in mint condition. The best will always outpace the rest for value. But these are comics that will never leave their plastic bags. Where's the fun in that? If you are going to get into comics — and it's only worth doing for love — you want to be able to read them."

And reading a comic detracts from its value, contributing to yellowing pages, colour-loss, creases and cover-roll. Condition is the key. A rigorous grading scale runs from "mint" and "near-mint" — which demand that even the oldest comic be as perfect as when it came off the press — through degrees of "fine" to levels of "good", which allow for tape repairs and staple-rust and will not interest the serious collector, to "fair" and "poor" — comics that are strictly for reading in the bath. For a full explanation of the grades, see Paul Sassienie's *The Comic Book* (Ebury £19.99).

Prices rigidly observe *The Overstreet Comic Book Price Guide* (Avon £5.99), so with that under your arm you can be sure of fair treatment. "The only area for debate," Mr Lake says, "is the condition. What one dealer calls 'near-mint' you may only rate 'very fine'. But I won't allow sharp operators at the mart. I have weeded them all out, so you can feel sure that you won't get ripped off."

● *The Comic Mart is being held at Westminister Central Hall, Storey's Gate, London SW1 on Saturday, January 28, 11am-4pm (071-250 3081 for inquiries).*

Comics such as these are much sought after by collectors

MARVEL COMICS

❛ First appearances of heroes from the Golden Age, such as Captain America, can cost thousands ❜

SALEROOM

☐ Forget the vulgar contemporary Valentine cards and indulge your loved one with a romantic antique example from **Phillips Bayswater** on Monday. Embossed paperlace cards decorated with dried flowers and silk panels cost from £10 to £15, while once-perfumed Valentine card sachets are estimated at £40 to £60.

☐ A fine selection of 19th-century patchwork quilts promises to ward off the January chills at **Christie's South Kensington** on Tuesday. Estimates range from £300 to £2,000.

☐ Two hundred and fifty sugar tongs sweeten an otherwise routine silver and plate sale at **Christie's South Kensington** on Tuesday. From the estate of the late London collector Frederick Joachim, they are expected to fetch £100 to £220 each.

☐ **The World of Drawings and Watercolours**, starting in London on Wednesday is one of the most popular annual events in January. A watercolour of the Tower of London by J. M. W. Turner, with the original sketchbook drawing is on offer for £30,000, but prices start in the low hundreds.

☐ According to **Phillips**, "the finest cricket collection to come on the market for more than 30 years" is up for sale on Thursday. Amassed over 75 years by a Birmingham dental surgeon, its highlights include a signed photograph of W. G. Grace wielding his bat, inscribed "with this bat I made my hundredth century and scored 1,000 runs in May 1895". It is expected to fetch between £200 and £300.

☐ **Bonhams** has a colourful collection of ceramic tiles on Wednesday featuring all the major English ceramics-makers (£20 to £2,000).

● *Bonhams, Montpelier Street, Knightsbridge, London SW7 (071-393 3900); Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 (071-581 7611); Phillips, 101 New Bond Street, London W1 (071-629 6602); Phillips Bayswater, 10 Salem Road, London W2 (071-229 9090); The World of Drawings and Watercolours, Park Lane Hotel, London W1 (for information 081-742 1611).*

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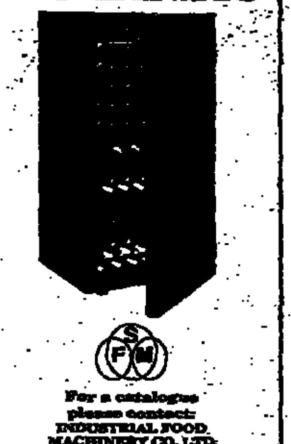

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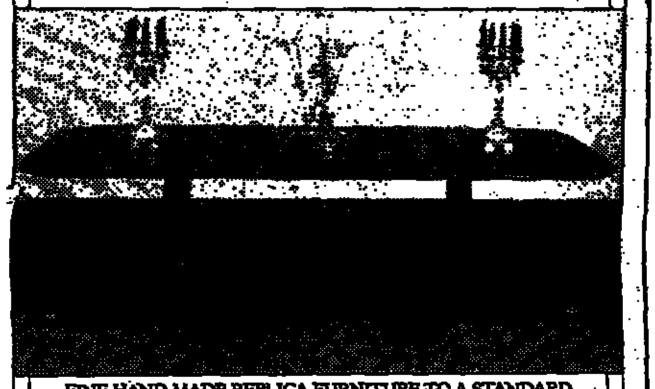

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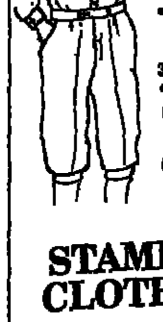

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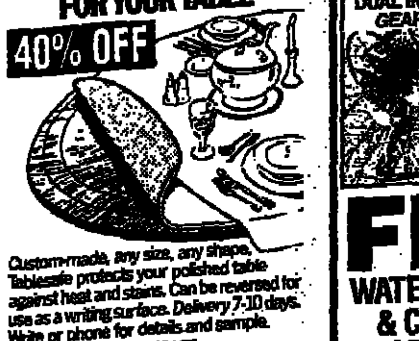

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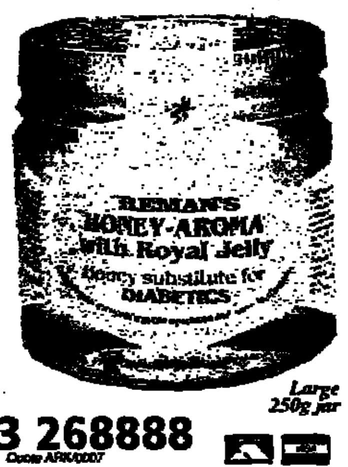

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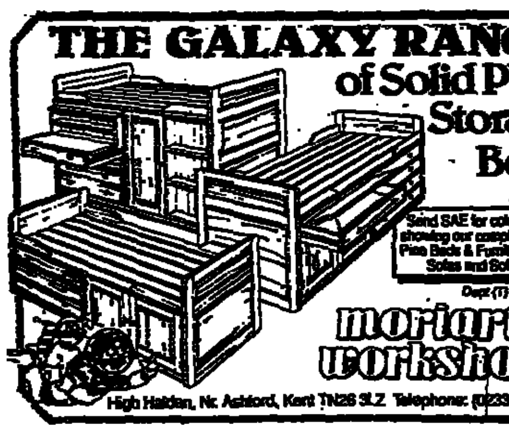

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18 SPEED DUAL INDEX

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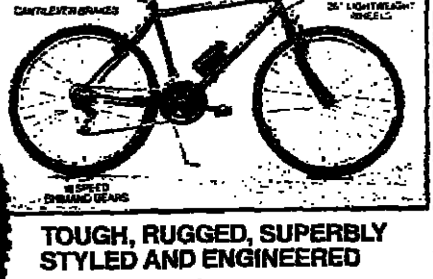

TOUGH, RUGGED, SUPERBLY STYLED AND ENGINEERED

A genuine once in a lifetime opportunity
You benefit from the unfortunate supplier who failed to deliver for the Christmas market. The entire consignment must now be cleared urgently REGARDLESS OF COST to the supplier. We have secured a quantity which we can offer on a FIRST COME – FIRST SERVED basis for HALF the importers recommended price SAVING YOU A MASSIVE £90. BUT !! BE WARNED AND BE QUICK !! The demand will be enormous and the stock is limited. This offer is unrepeatable!!!

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SUITABLE FOR 14 YEARS UPWARD INSIDE LEG 27" to 36"
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My Card No is ______ Expiry Date ______
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End cold feet and hands forever — Yes these NASA developed ALASKAN Thermal Socks & Glove liners guarantee winter warmth

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CAROL WRIGHT Takes The Bite Out Of Winter. If you've ever suffered from the cold, you'll wonder how you did without this special aluminised, stretch fabric developed for NASA to protect astronauts from the incredible cold of *deep space*. The fabric reflects body heat and thousands of tiny pockets trap it. The results are *lightweight, easy-to-move-in socks and glove liners* that keep your hands and feet protected and warm in sub-zero weather. *SAVE!* Buy two pairs of gloves or socks–at Our SUPERSAVERS PRICE. One pair for you and one as a gift. When ordering the Socks and Gloves, one size fits all. Please state whether for Men (M) or Woman (W).

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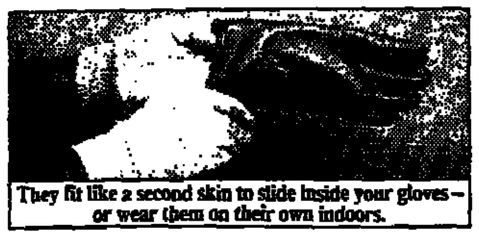

They fit like a second skin to slide inside your gloves – or wear them on their own indoors.

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☎ 24hr CREDIT CARD HOTLINE
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Please send me the following:

Item	Qty	M or W	Price inc £2.05 p&p	Total
2 pairs of Thermal Socks			£10	
2 pairs of Thermal Gloves			£12	
2 pairs of Knee Length Thermal Socks			£12	
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Please tick preferred method of payment
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PROPERTY

TO ADVERTISE CALL:
071 481 1986 (TRADE)
071 481 4000 (PRIVATE)
FAX: 071 782 7826 071 782 7827

NORTH OF THE THAMES

BAKER ST, NW1: Newly refurb 2 bed 1 bath 1 shwr room 2 recep rooms. L/H £250,000 Cornerstone 071 486 5551

BAYSWATER Immac 3 bed 2 bath flat. mod p/b block Porterage. gge. £246,000 l/h Westbourne Est 071 727 8612

BICKENHALL MANS: 2nd flr 3 bed 2 bath 1 rec. L/H £325,000 Cornerstone 071 486 5551

CHELSEA Borders. Superb 4 storey house. 4 bedrooms. 2 bathrooms. 3 receps. roof terrace. 40'gdn. £389,950. Harrington Lowndes 071-736 7272

WOULD YOU LIKE

to live in a huge (approx 2,000 sq. ft) space converted from an old warehouse/office building? A husband & wife team seek potential partners to acquire a building to convert into large 'lofts' for owner occupation as home offices. Central London & fringes only. Must have minimum £150,000 cash. No time wasters/agents please.

071 833 0769 (eves/wkends).

CHISWICK - Pretty 3 bed 2 recep house & garden. Close river. £149,000. Tel: 071 221 9044.

FULHAM. Refurbished 4 bed. 2 bath. house south of New Kings Road, close to Hurlingham. £279,995. 071-731 1181.

HAMILTON TERRACE: New instruction refurb flat in period bldg - Exc cond 2 bed 1 bath 1 shwr room rec room conserv comm gdn. L/H £279,950 Cornerstone 071 486 5551

LADBROKE ROAD W11 Freehold house for modernisation Early Victorian stucco fronted house 8 rooms k b 1900 sq ft ideal for city commuting close to tube £425,000 Alyesford & Co 071 727 6663

ISLINGTON

Excellently modernised early Victorian flat fronted house in conservation area. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms (1 e/s), double recep, dining room, large kit/breakfast, cloakroom, study, gas ch. 30' west facing gdn £235,000

081 780 2644 (T)

HYDE PARK, W2: 3rd floor 2 beds 1 bath 1 rec L/H £139,950 Cornerstone 071 486 5551

LITTLE VENICE Truely spacious 3rd flr apt in white stucco conversion. 3 beds. 3 baths. 2 receps. £230,000 offers invited. Hazelvine Ltd 0171 286 4906.

LITTLE VENICE/Maida Vale. The specialist local agents. Vickers & Co 071 289 1692

LONDON W1 Prime residential investments in W1. Also available supreme quality flats for sale & rental. For a free brochure call Crown Lawn Properties: 071 493 1468.

MAIDA VALE. Exceptional 1 bed flat on 1st flr of recently renovated mansion block. £115,000 Hazelvine 0171 286 4906.

PALACE COURT W2 O'look Kensington Gdns. Magnificent 3 bed 2 bath 2 rec 1st flr balcony flat with high ceilings & period features. G ch. Lift. £310,000 83 year lease Westbourne Est 071 727 8612

MARYLEBONE HIGH ST. W1.

Unique det. hse. on High St. Could provide 5 bds, 3 bths, 2 rec,-kit, garaging for 5 cars by sep. arrange. 970 yrs. £365,000. 071 724 6111

REGENTS PARK NW1

New refurb, 5th flr apt, portered block, 3 beds, bath, clocks, dbl rec, ex. value, 132 yrs, £164,950. 071 724 6111

REGENTS PARK NW1

Opportunity to acquire 2 flats & combine (subject to commission) to create stunning 5 bed penthouse, views over park, extensive terracing, 2 gge spaces, 69 yrs, £595,000.

071 724 6111

HUNTSWORTH MEWS NW1 Attractive mews hse, 3 bds, 2 bths, rec, kit, terr., clse Baker St.tube & Regents Park, f/h, £237,000. 071 724 6111

MAIDA VALE 1st floor 2 bedroom flat close tube. £145,000. Sandfords 071 723 9988

MOORE PARK ROAD, SW6 Modern family townhouse. 4 beds, 2 recep. 2 1/2 baths. kit/break. gdn. garage. FH £235,000 071 823 6923

Daniel Smith

Chartered Surveyors

ST JOHNS WOOD

ACACIA ROAD
A Grade II det'd villa on 3 floors. 4 Bedrooms 3 Bathrooms Shower room Drawing room, Kitchen/Dining Room, Family Room, Study, Playroom. Parking for one car Front & rear gardens 80 yr lse £995,000

CARLTON HILL
A Grade II det'd house on 3 floors, in need of refurbishment. 5 Beds, Bath, Drawing Room, Dining Room, Kitchen, Breakfast Room. Front & Rear gardens. 99 yr lse £750,000

NORFOLK ROAD
A Grade II semi det'd villa, in need of refurbishment. 4 beds, 2 baths. Drawing Room, Dining Room, Study. Kitchen. Fronbt & Rear Gardens.
87 yr lse £550,000

ST JOHNS WOOD
Grade II semi in need of some redecoration. 4/5 beds. 3 baths, shower room, 3 receps, playroom, study, kitchen, garage, parking for 2 cars. Front & rear gardens. 99 yr lse £850,000

25 St Johns Wood Park
London NW8 6QR
071 483 2972
Mon-Fri 9-5.30

PRIMROSE HILL 1 bed cottage reduced to sell £134,950. Sandfords 071 723 9988

SOUTH PARK SW6 Immaculate 3 bed house with original features. 50' gdn. £219,950. Harrington Lowndes 071-736 7272

SW6 nr Parsons Green. Superb 4 bed newly mod hse. £263,950. Tel: 071- 371 9736 (No agents).

W2 Modern townhse on 3 flrs. 4 bedrms, recep. kit. 2 bathrms. clkrm. Gge. £249,950 f/h Macmillans 071 723 3678

W2 4th (top) flr flat in red brick mansion blk. Close 'Little Venice' 3 beds, rec, kit/b'fast. bathrm, sep wc. L/h £149,950 Macmillans 071 723 3678

LONDON PROPERTY

SALTER REX ISLINGTON.

SUBSTANTIAL PERIOD SEMI DETACHED STUCCO FRONTED HOUSE

close to amenities requiring modernisation. 5 bedrooms, 3/4 reception rooms, 2 wc's. 100' rear garden. Possible space for garage subject to planning permission.

Offers in excess £300,000 freehold.
071 482 4488

MAIDA VALE

LUXURY GARDEN FLAT OWN ENTRANCE

+ direct access to stunning garden at rear. Interior designed + attractive features. Reception, dining room, bedroom + study/dressing/bedroom 2. Victorian style bathroom, luxury fitted kitchen. Gas ch. Off Street Parking.

£250,000 leasehold.
071 431 1881

SOUTH OF THE THAMES

BARNES Immaculate. 4 bed, 2 recept, fit kit/large bkfst rm. Sth facing gdn. v.close to village. £360,000. Tel: Mon-Fri 10-4pm 0268 778081.

PUTNEY SW15 Impressive Vict. house with flexible accomm. 2 receps. kit/br rm. utility. cellar. 4 beds. a/s shower. bath + s/c flat. £365,000. Allen Briegel 081-780 0077 Other props reqd

WAND COMMON (West) spacious Victorian hse 5 bed 3 bath dbl rec. Huge kit. gdn. £295,000. 081 877 1119 (T)

INTERIOR DESIGNERS HOUSE BATTERSEA SW11

Quiet enclave, situated in Octavia Street, close to Battersea Park and Albert Bridge. White walls, pale lime ash floors, french marble fireplace new beech kitchen with state of the art steel AEG oven and extractor hood. Designer bathroom, double reception room, three bedrooms, secluded garden, gas central heating, panelled doors, fitted glass fronted wardrobes. Extremely desirable for discerning buyer. Early viewing recommended.

£230,000

Telephone: 071 228 9265.

071
937 3878

DULWICH

DULWICH

Stunning, modern house

Top Designer Interior
Private road, 30 metres Dulwich College. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, shower room (all marble). Gaggenau/Wrighton kitchen. Large light living areas with Junkers beach flooring. Double garage. Secluded garden. Immaculate.

£385,000

Tel 081 693 7773.

LONDON PROPERTY

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Report to the Schoolhouse

PAGES WALK, LONDON SE1.
FOR THE SECOND RELEASE OF APARTMENTS.

A 19th century School, one mile from Tower Bridge, has been converted to create 58 unique double volume interior designed apartments in SE1. Features include; galleries, glass bricks, parquet flooring, hi-tech kitchens & bathrooms, car park space, private and communal gardens and many other original features.

This Saturday & Sunday the show flat will be open to view from 11.00am until 4.00pm

1 BEDROOM GALLERY APARTMENTS FROM £ 62,500
2 BEDROOM APARTMENTS FROM £ 75,000

For further information call the brochure line:

ALEX♦NEIL
0171 537 9859

PLEASE GET IN LINE. SINGLE FILE. NO RUNNING

CITY & WEST END

BAKER ST/MARYLEBONE. 1 bed top floor flat in listed Georgian town house. GCH, entryphone, lux.bathroom. low outgoings. 88yr lease. £94,950 ono. 071-402 3875

BARBICAN And City. For January list of flats from £56,000. Call Frank Harris City Office 071-600 7000.

BICKENHALL MANSIONS nr Baker St/Regents Pk Spacious (1,620 sq ft) 3 bed 5th floor sth fcng apt in exc order throughout. Lse 103 yrs. £328,000. J S & Co 071 258 0800

GOODGE ST W1. Superb modern 2 bed p/b flat. recep. ff kit. bath. w/c. ensuite cloakroom to main bed. 2 balcs. GCH. long lease. £136,000. No agents. Ring Patti: Day 071 831 8441. Eve 071 323 5519.

MONTAGU MEWS NORTH W1 F/h 3 bed mews hse needs complete refurbishment £285,000 J S & Co 071 258 0800

SPITALFIELDS Georgian house with a rear two storey Synagogue/studio. Restored orig features F/h £518,000 Tarn & Tarn 071 283 2911

SPITALFIELDS Selection 1 bed flats walking distance City. Good rentals. From £40,000 l/h. Tarn & Tarn 071 283 2911

WANTED W1 Spacious 1 bed flat min lse 25 yrs. Max £100,000. Fees req J S & Co 071 258 0800

W1 3 bed mews hse in very gd cond with gge. Loft conversion a possibility with p/permission. L/h £450,000 071 224 0969 T

WHITECHAPEL Victorian hse Lge top flr studio rm. Period features rear yd f/h £189,000 Tarn & Tarn 071 283 2911

W1 Investment bldng 2 offices: Two 1 bedrm flats + studio flat. L/h 998 yrs. £900,000. Wallaway Est 071 224 0969

BELGRAVIA & KNIGHTSBRIDGE

REPOSSESSIONS

[illegible]

Telesales Hotline: 081 209 0200

REPOSSESSIONS

CHELSEA & KENSINGTON

CHELSEA CLOISTERS Apts for sale. Studio 1 bed & 2 bed from £55,000. Tel:071 584 5004.

CHELSEA HOMESEARCH CO. Will find your central London Property : 071 937 2281.

EX/FACTORY (Chelsea) Lamont Rd. unusual v.lge home. garage 1.39 million 071 3521198

MARLOES ROAD, London W8 small 2 bed 2 bath 1st flr - lift - 88 yr lse £119,950 ono Tel 071 581 0335

PROPERTY FIND - Property Search Services. Tel :071 584 5004.

SOUTH KENSINGTON 2 bed. recep. kit. bath 3rd floor flat. lift. £110,000. 071 266 3866

SW3 Quiet newly modernised 1 bed 1 recep lwr grnd flat. Views of gdn. 34 yrs £69,000: 071 581 8977 or 081 877 1119

For sale
CHELSEA HARBOUR
Stunning 4th flr apt
Chelsea Cresc SW10
River views lge dble aspect priv balc. hall, guest clk fit kit/brkf br, mst bed + e/s bath 2nd bed 2nd bath, spac L-shp. [illegible] 24hr sec-u/grnd pk Lse 118 yrs
£390,000 Tokyo Agency
071 935 1774 Mon-Sat

MAYFAIR

ALDFORD STREET. W1. A rarely available Mayfair duplex with private street entrance. 3 beds, 2 baths, 2 receps. balcony. period features. Low outgoings. Lse 49 years. £575,000. Lassmans 071 499 3434.

HAYS MEWS, W1. A spacious recently built mews house in the heart of Mayfair. Drawing room. Dining room. 2 beds. 1 bath. 1 shower. utility room. roof terrace. garage for 2 cars. Lse 56 years. £595,000. Sole Agents Lassmans 01 499 3434.

MOUNT STREET, W1. An outstanding interior designed apartment. Well proportioned rooms. 2 receps. kitchen. 2 beds bath e/s. shower room. Lse 60 years. £445,000. Sole Agents Lassmans 071 499 3434.

WESTMINSTER

HATHAWAYS: Adj Vincent Sq. small mansion flat. 986 sq ft. 3 bed. rec/dining. kit & bath. Lse 81 yrs + SOF. OIRO £169,500. 77, Buckingham Gate. SW1. 071-222 3133.

RICHMOND & KINGSTON

KINGSTON HILL Detached house only yards from Richmond Park. 2 recep. study. lge kit/br room. utility. 5 beds. 2 baths. dble gge. gdn. £320,000. Allen Briegel 081-780 0077.

COUNTRY PROPERTY

SECOND HOME FOR SALE:
19FT LOUNGE. 11FT KITCHEN.
603 YARD DRIVE.

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For just £99,900 - more than a lifetime's membership to a golf club - you can own a three bedroom, two bathroom home set on a part 72 golf course within 800 acres of private parkland. As well as unrestricted use of the course, you'll also be entitled to enjoy all the facilities in the new Clubhouse, which include a fully equipped Health Club and a large indoor swimming pool. For more details call us today - we're open seven days a week.

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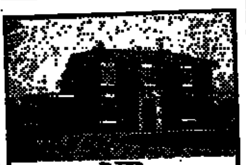
CALL 01604 671471 NOW

WIMBLEDON

COPSE HILL area. £595,000. Premier road location pretty det hse. 4 recs. 2 baths, garage + gardens. Tarrant & Co 081 947 1066 or 0370 256810 (T)

ESSEX

ESSEX/Suffolk Bdrs - Country props. £38,000 to £600,000. Nicholas Percival 0206 863222



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5 bedrms + annex coach house, stables & barn swimming pool & 7 acres

10 mins to yachts
15 mins station

£325,000 ONO.

or PX Central London flat

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Grade II listed Manor House 25 acres. Mancrial title Cottage, Stables, Barns, Workshop etc.

Offers in the region of

£700,000.

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MERSEYSIDE The Gables. Newly built very lge stylish elegant 2,750 sq ft contemporary det town hse in exclusive leafy suburban location. Imaginative split level designs, layout & fittings to take the breath away. Internal viewing essential. Seriously for sale @ £285,000 Details 051 428 6243 or 0925 210822 or 0851 459800 (T)

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OXFORD In 3 acre gated woodland setting, elegant new development of only 24 apartments (1200/1400 sq.ft) 2 or 3 beds. luxury kit and baths. From £118,000. Show home - open weekend 21/22 Jan. Tel 01865 742801 or Brecken & Brecken 01865 244735 or Adkins 01865-61060

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Beautiful, spacious, detached house on ¼ acre, with magnificent views, over sea loch, moorland & mountains. Renovated to very high standard, excellent decorative order, quality carpets, curtains, light fittings throughout. Many extras, full solid fuel CH, UPVC dbl glazing, lounge, din. rm., sun lnge, lge fit. kit. with rayburn, utility, lge bth rm, 3 - 5 bedrms, gge.

£59,500

0851 860490

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Georgian style circa 1819 main door flat, overlooking Drummond Place Gardens, recently refurbished & modernised to a very high standard and comprising spacious recep hall, superb drawing room, 1 sgle bedrm/study, 2 double beds, fully fitted luxury kit & bath. This property has to be seen.

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SOMERSET & AVON

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SUSSEX

NR. CHICHESTER Luxury flats at Aldingbourne House A magnificent listed Georgian mansion in parkland grounds of 22 acres. only 3½ miles from Chichester mainly 2 bed 2 bath £85,000 - £150,000 Show flat open 7 days a week 0243 542229 or Henry Adams & Partners 0243 533577

COUNTRY RENTALS

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LUXURY Retirement/Executive suites. Lavishly furnished inc kitchen. Picturesque tranquil 70 acre site. Fishing. 3 lakes on site pub/restaurant. North Lakes Carlisle from £150pw No bills 6 & 12 months rental letting 0228 70651.

NR BASINGSTOKE 4 bed. 2 bath rural farm + stabling. £1,250pcm 0256 882171

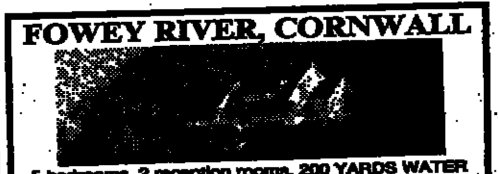
WANTED

Country house to rent for minimum 6 months +. Not further than 40 miles from central London, ideally Berks/Bucks. Excellent order. 5-6 bedrooms, swimming pool & tennis court essential. 2 acres +.

Please Reply to Box No 2899

DEVON & CORNWALL

FOWEY RIVER, CORNWALL



5 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms. 200 YARDS WATER FRONTAGE. Offers invited for the freehold in the region of £280,000. STRATTON CREBER, CHARLESTOWN, ST AUSTELL, CORNWALL. Tel: 0726 68811

COUNTRY PROPERTY

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Near Dolgellau Gwynedd with superb southerly aspect, a lovely old Welsh Longhouse with established small Guest House business. Rated among top Welsh Guest Houses with an international reputation, commended in three American guides, Which Hotel Guide, etc.

5 receptions, 3 fully en suite guest rooms + 2 private bedrooms, bathrm & kitchen. Magnificent oak timbers, inglenook etc. Garage, formal garden, orchard, stream & paddock.

Lovely family home, with or without the business.

Offers in region of £230,000.

WALTER LLOYD JONES & CO
Bridge St, Dolgellau
0341 422278 or
High St, Barmouth Gwynedd
0341 280527

RENTALS

BELGRAVIA Furn. 2 bed top floor apt with sunny terrace. Lift. £450pw. 071 584 5615.

BRONDESBURY PARK NW6. Brand new 3 dble bed 3 bath house on exclusive estate. features include conservatory, garden, swimming pool, sauna gym & jacuzzi. £400pw (D) 071 917 2692 (E)0799 550911.

CHELSEA HARBOUR, SW10. lux 3 bed flt 2 bath. lift & prtr. £800pw avail immed. Alison 071 935 1774

FLEET ST Supb studio flat in exclusive quiet block. Grt posn All amens. Co let 071 4901900

GROSVENOR SQ. New mews development of lux 1/2/3 bed flats with gge. 1yr+. from £450pw 081 332 7318.

HYDE PARK 4 bed house. 2 recep. dining room 2 bath 1 clkrm. dble gge. garden. View of Garden Square unfurn £850pw 071 266 3866.

HYDE PK W2. Unfurn town house gdn sq 5 beds, 2 baths. 2 recep. kit DW/W-D, gdn dble gge £850pw 071 229 8444.

LADBROKE SQ. W11. Nice 1 bed flat. CH. key gardens. leafy views. £220pw.081 348 9720

LUXURY 3 bed flat in Mayfair. £495pw Raiff & Co 071 491 3164.

MAIDA VALE W9. New decor bright spac 2 bd 2 bth flat. recep tv fit kit w/m/d gch.balcony £280pw 081 958 8911

MARLYBONE - Large 4 bed mansion flat Suit family long/short let(ARLA) 0973 312326

NOTTING HILL Views over Kens Gdn. Elegant & spac 1st flr furn flat. 3 beds. 2 baths,2 receps. kit/break high ceilings fire place £550pw 071 229 8444.

NOTTING HILL pretty mews house, excellent condition. 2 dble, 1 single, bath, shower rm. garage & workshop, roof garden. £400 pw. 071 727 4006.

NW8 2 bed gdn flat. Ex pst seeks prof Fam to flat sit. £400 pcm. 071 328 8544 (this w/e only).

PUTNEY Bright, spacious 3 bed flat. Modern kitchen, bathroom: gch. 22ft lounge, 10 mins tube. suit couple or 2/3 prof. Avail end Feb £240pw excl. Contact 071 323 9781 to view

PUTNEY (West) SW15. An immaculate 2 bed Victorian cottage close to High St. Fully equiped. Lux kit & bath F/furn £300pw 081 789 7077.

RICHMOND HILL Quietly sit. 5/6 bed Victorian hse. Off st.pk. Unfurn £700pw. 081 3329362

S KEN - Drayton Gardens lux 4 bed 2 bath Dec start special at £900pw Alison 071 935 1774

SW5. Bramham Gardens lux 2 bed flat 2 bath lift. garden square. Must be seen £500pw Alison 071 935 1774 days.

SW18 OLD TOWN. Sunny lux 2b. f/furn. 2 min BR. stylish loc. £625 pcm. 081 878 3255.

W1 Lux. Spac. flat. 3 bed. 2 bath. Clk. rm. Large. recep. £520 pw. Buckrise 071 580 4829.

SOUTH KENSINGTON SW7

Selection of 2/3/4/5 bed mansion apartments large rooms, furn/unfurn available immediately

From £300 per week

ANGERMAN GODDARD & LOYD
071 409 7303

HAMILTON TERRACE
St Johns Wood NW8

S/contained, spacious apt in [illegible] prestigious address. Reception hall, 4 bedrms, 2 bathrms, 2 receptions, private garden, gge. parking area. Very close U.S.A school and all transport.

£400pw incl.CH, HW.
Tel: 071 286 1228

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A higher degree of comfort

Cranes compete with spires as universities embark on a multi-million-pound building boom to house students. **Rachel Kelly** reports

CLIVE POSTLETHWAITE

The new Magdalen Holywell Ford student quad at Oxford. *"Colleges offering three years' accommodation are definitely getting better students," says Gavin Weir, a former student*

Students, we know, steal each other's milk. How sensible it would be, therefore, to give students rooms with their own fridges and to have fridge-freezers with lockable compartments in the communal kitchens.

Even more sensible would be to create unbreakable light fittings, doors with robust locks and which were reinforced to take the weight of student shoulders, and bathrooms with water-tight floors for overflowing baths.

The accommodation block would be divided into a series of four-bedroom flats, each with its own front door, to provide for pleasant communal life on a manageable scale. And the university would employ a locksmith to deal with students who have locked themselves out.

These are just some of the ideas which Greenwich University in south-east London plans to incorporate into its £14 million scheme to build new accommodation for 700 students. Like many other universities nationwide, it will oversee a building boom over the next few years to house ever more students in better designed property.

According to Anthony Smith, President of Magdalen College, Oxford, not since the Middle Ages have the more ancient colleges seen the building of so much accommodation. Visit Oxford, and cranes compete with spires. Magdalen, St Anne's, St John's and Linacre are among those colleges building or completing new quads.

Younger universities have not seen so much building since the 1960s when a rash of ill-designed, flat-roofed blocks sprang up as halls of residence. By this summer, Birmingham University will have built 1,700 new student rooms, an increase of 40 per cent on its stock of rooms in 1990.

At Bristol University, more new student rooms became available last term than at any time since two halls of residence were opened in 1964. Tony Roberts, the university's deputy bursar, says 54 extra rooms have been created at Goldney Hall; 127 study bedrooms have been opened in St George's Road, close to the Bristol City Council offices; and a self-catering hall has been built in Stoke Bishop.

Durham University, says spokesman Keith Seacroft, has built 797 new rooms since 1990. The University of Leicester has opened 410 new rooms in the past two years, and plans another 450. Other universities, including Warwick and Cambridge, are renting private flats and houses to sub-let to students.

The chief reason for this activity is the increase in the number of students. Figures from the Department of Education show that numbers have almost doubled in the past five years to more than a million, partly as a result of the Government's policy to achieve 30 per cent participation in higher education among 18 to 21 year olds by the end of the decade.

Universities realise that to attract the best students, it is not enough to provide the most desirable tutoring, and the best libraries and lectures — they must also offer good, reasonably priced accommodation. Gavin Weir, a former junior common room president at Magdalen College, Oxford, who left last summer, says: "The colleges offering three years' accommodation definitely get better students."

All mod cons: a new attic room in Magdalen's Cloisters quad

As far as the students are concerned, the reasons are financial. Living out is an expensive option. At Magdalen, for example, rents in college average £34 a week. Mr Weir estimates that private rents in Oxford are about £50 a week, with the added complication that tenancies are available only for a full year rather than for the six months that coincide with term time.

The National Union of Students (NUS) calculates that the approximate weekly cost for all students in college-provided accommodation, for this academic year, is £48.56, including gas and electricity (higher for full board, lower for self-catering). In the private sector, the rent alone would be £39.90.

Since student loans were introduced in 1990, those who rent privately can no longer claim housing benefit. The National Housing and Town Planning Council, a charity which promotes better housing, says that the loss of housing benefit has forced students into cheaper, but almost uninhabitable, accommodation: overcrowded, ill-ventilated houses with unhygenic bathrooms and kitchens, poor wiring and no fire escapes.

For students wanting comfortable housing at reasonable cost during their salad days the universities embarking on new building projects seem an increasingly attractive option. But a spokesman for the NUS says that such universities may charge higher rents for new properties.

John McWilliam, deputy vice-chancellor of Greenwich University, explains: "According to government guidelines, students, through their rents, must shoulder part of the cost of new buildings. The National Audit Commission and the Funding Council for Higher Education in England say that taxpayers' money should go towards education, not accommodation." At Greenwich, rents for new accommodation are expected to be £53 to £55 a week compared with the current charge of £40 per week in older halls of residence.

To defray the cost some universities are fund-raising to pay for new building, until recently with the help of Business Expansion Schemes (BES). The tax loophole which enabled them to use such schemes was closed by Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, in the November Budget.

The luckier students of the future will end up in well-designed accommodation, which they will not have had to pay for because the college or university will have embarked on a massive fund-raising effort on their behalf.

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Hampshire. About £425,000 (John D. Wood, 0962 863131).

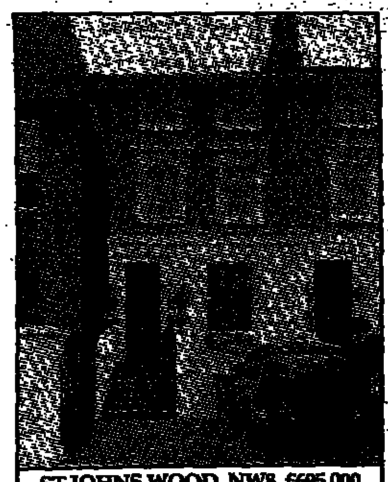
Kent. About £425,000 (Savills, 0732 455551).

Herefordshire. About £210,000 (Knight, Frank & Rutley, 0432 273087).

Perthshire. About £390,000 (Savills, 0356 622187).

THE WINNERS

First: N. Edwards, of London SW3, who wins a weekend for two at Woodside Farm, near Burford; second: Mr & Mrs R. Chenle, of Gunwalloe, Cornwall, who win a limited edition version of the family board game LA-TREL; third: G. H. Clayton, of Marlow, Bucks, who wins a deluxe edition of LA-TREL.



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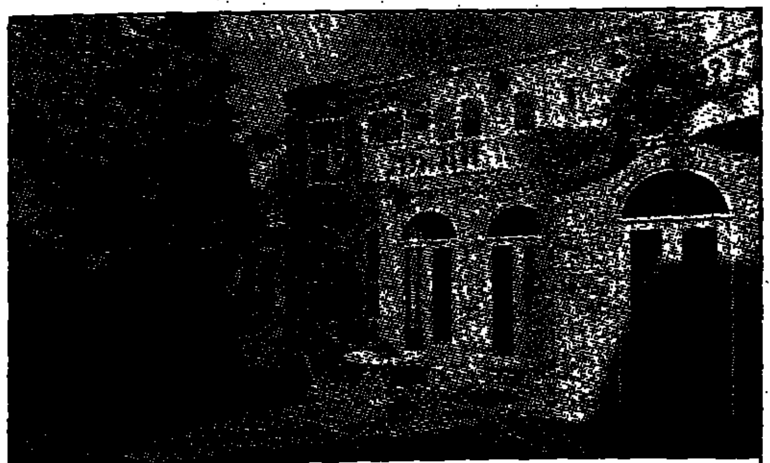

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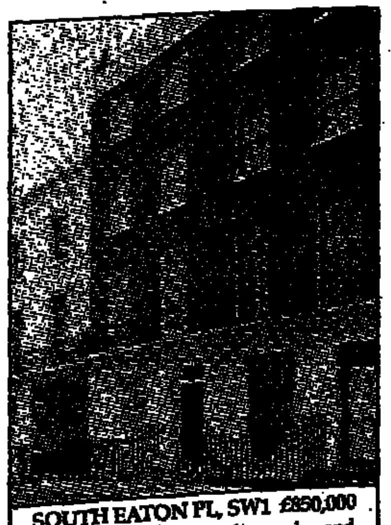

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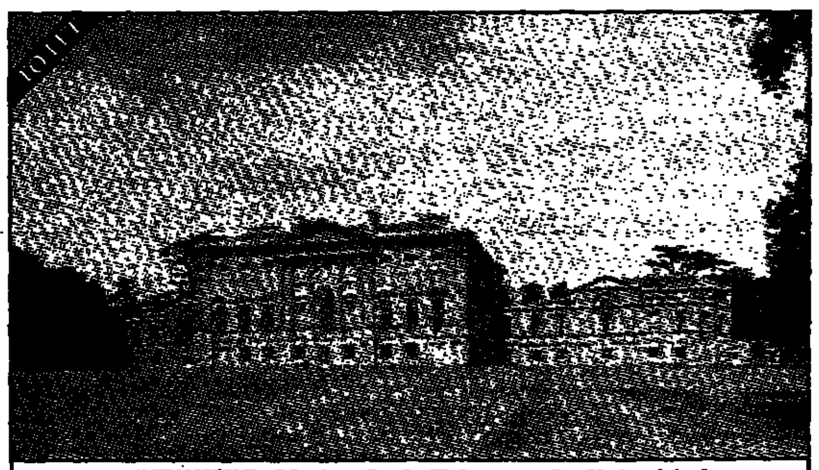

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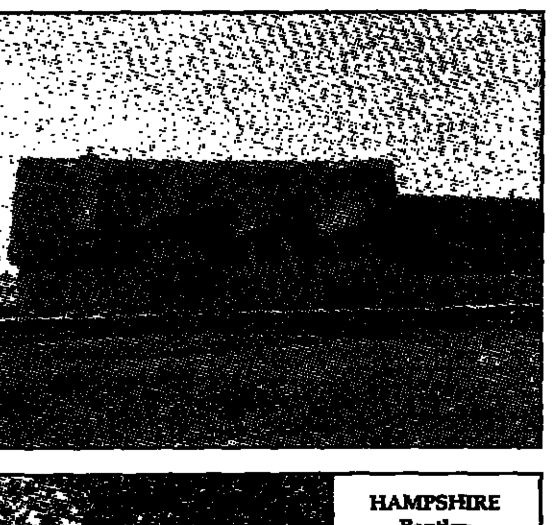

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صكنا من الاهل

BOOKS

The practical European cat

T. S. Eliot's vision of European culture holds strong contemporary relevance

Will the name of T.S. Eliot mean anything to my children's children? And if so, what will he be remembered for? As the author of Anglo-Catholic devotional verses, of unread criticism and unperformed plays — a kind of 20th-century Southey, without even the benefit of being debunked by a Macaulay? As the inspiration of the musical *Cats*? Or even as the domestic tyrant of *Tom and Viv*, who has his first wife certified even though she is sane?

Monstrous thoughts — yet they must be thought through if the American critic Harold Bloom is right to argue in *The Western Canon* (which Peter Ackroyd will review in *The Times* next Thursday) that many of those alive today will live to see an almost wholly oral and visual culture replace the literary civilisation of the past. Bloom is one of those who fought against "the Eliotic nostalgia for theocratic ideology" 40 years ago; but even he includes Eliot's poetry and prose among the canonical works of the "chaotic" 20th century.

Will Bloom's successors in the universities likewise regard Eliot as indispensable? I fear not. In the new *Cambridge Companion to T. S. Eliot*, edited by A. David Moody (Cambridge University Press, £35/£11.95 pbk), even basically sympathetic scholars tend to patronise him. One contributor, Bernard Sharrat, argues that "any number of regressively conservative tendencies may seek support and comfort in Eliot's deliberately restrictive definition of culture".

This week the T. S. Eliot Prize of £5,000, set up by his widow Valerie with the Poetry Book Society, was awarded to Paul Muldoon for *The Annals of Chile*. An award for new poetry is of course an admirable memorial for the author of *The Waste Land* and the *Four Quartets*, even if at least one of this year's shortlisted poets, Tom Paulin, has gone out of his way to anathematise Eliot and all his works. But the naming of a literary prize, however munificent, is only a mark of respect to the dead poet by his admirers; it will not gain Eliot new readers.

One painless way of making Eliot's acquaintance is to listen to him reading his greatest work, *Four Quartets*, on one of three CDs in the marvellous EMI collection *Writers and Poets*, which also includes the voices of Tolstoy, Yeats, Shaw, Joyce, Priestley, Conan Doyle, Virginia Woolf, Vita Sackville-West, A. A. Milne and C. Day Lewis. To hear Eliot's mournfully cadenced declamation of these astonishing meditations on time and death is to be transported back to the year 1946 when the recordings were made. By then he was already the most famous poet in the language, and would shortly receive the Nobel Prize; but these are works of sublime humility. In "East Coker", for instance:

DANIEL JOHNSON

O dark dark dark.
They all go into the dark,
The vacant interstellar
spaces, the vacant into
the vacant,
The captains,
merchant bankers,
eminent men of
letters...

Often in his writings, he seems to wrestle with the possibility of a world in which poetry, including his own, might no longer possess the power to redeem a literary tradition from its negation — those "daemonic, chthonic powers" which war revealed to him. *Notes Towards the Definition of Culture* (1948) concludes with two lectures broadcast to the defeated Germans, in which his dread of a godless future surfaces: "I do not believe that the culture of Europe could survive the complete disappearance of the Christian faith." Eliot's point, highly relevant to the present European debate, is this: "The unity of culture, in contrast to the unity of political organisation, does not require us all to have only one loyalty: it means that there will be a variety of loyalties. It is fantastic to hold that the supreme duty of every individual should be towards a Super-State."

Eliot gave a practical demonstration of what he meant by the unity of European culture in *The Criterion*, the quarterly review which he edited between 1922 and 1939. I have before me an issue of 1932, which includes "A Commentary by the Editor", in which Eliot examines the conversion of his old sparring partner, John Middleton Murry, to Communism. He condemns "the mystical belief in hard-feeling", which "is apparent in extreme Nationalism as well as Communism: and indeed the two do not seem very far apart". Is this the voice of a totalitarian mind? There was no shortage of them in 1932. And yet he takes Communist Russia seriously: this issue includes a review of Russian periodicals, besides an essay on the poet Alexander Blok by Maurice Bowra.

The Criterion was not intended to be the vehicle of an ideology, though, as Eliot himself admitted, it did come to reflect his own prejudices, including his anti-Semitism. But it maintained invaluable links with literary journals abroad and kept the idea of European culture alive when European politics threatened to extinguish it forever. Eliot fought a rearguard action against the encroaching politicisation of the intellectual life. He may have failed, but his example remains. There was more to Eliot than Lloyd Webber dreams of.

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HANNAH Hauxwell was "discovered" by Yorkshire Television documentary maker Barry Cockcroft in his film *A Winter Too Many*. He went on to make two more films about her, which have been shown all over the world. She tells of her hard times in the Yorkshire dales and her memories of a rural life which has now disappeared. Her rambling style takes some getting used to but slowly she draws us into her memories, which are strangely haunting.

RUSSELL TWISK

Israel's bloody growing pains

Herman Wouk's novels of the struggle for nationhood have the brutal ring of truth, says **Erica Wagner**

■ THE GLORY
By Herman Wouk
Hodder & Stoughton, £16.99

"I HAVE faith," Herman Wouk wrote in a preface to *War and Remembrance*, the second of his Second World War sagas, "that the human spirit will prove equal to the long, heavy task of ending war." The human spirit has not yet, alas, come up to the mark, and while one cannot doubt the sincerity of Wouk's sentiment, it seems fair to remark that mankind's brutal assaults on itself have provided him with much material.

This, his eleventh novel, ends with a tentative peace: but much of the book is in the martial vein. It takes up where his last, *The Hope*, leaves off. That book told the story of Israel's founding and its history through the victory of the Six Day War in 1967. In *The Glory*, the battle for true nationhood continues. From the terrible Yom Kippur War to the present day — the novel ends with the fortieth anniversary of the state's founding — Israel is hammered from every side: by Egypt and her allies from without, and by internal divisions from within.

Wouk has a Pulitzer Prize to his credit and long ago proved his skill at the delicate balancing act which is the historical novel. His characters, many of whom were first encountered in *The Hope*, take part in tank battles and air raids and are privy to the secret machinations of Jerusalem and Washington. In the course of nearly 700 pages, we get to see all the angles, from the frantic concentration of an F-16 pilot to Moshe Dayan without his famous eyepatch. Wouk has a fine flair for slipping vital background and information to his readers in the guise of conversation. "Let's say I'm Cyrus Vance, the American Secretary of State," says Dayan to his aide, Zev Barak, as they head towards Camp David. "Go ahead, convince me not to support the Egyptians on Article Six." Barak, of course neatly encapsulates the article before proceeding to detail the Israeli arguments.

IT must be admitted that on occasion such thoroughness can cause the book to drag a little: it might be better to know less and move faster. This would be less noticeable without the swift, sure handling of the Entebbe raid, which unfolds as excitingly as if its outcome were a surprise.

But the book is not all war. Wouk's characters have personal lives as well, and these of a complexity worthy of real life. Barak, now a high-ranking Israeli official, remains married to his beautiful Moroccan wife but continues to nurse a yen for Emily Cunningham, the feisty daughter of a CIA man. Her marriage does little to dim his ardour and their difficult courtship runs throughout the book. As in real life, whether they find happiness is a moot point; unfortunately they have enough fruitless confrontations to make one wish for one of the generous solutions fiction can provide. Their personalities, too, like most to be found in the novel, stay at the shallower end of the third dimension (almost all have a tendency to use the same exclamations, such as "By my life!", "To all the devils" and even "Oo-wah!") despite the upheavals in their lives.

But all the same, the words that come out of their mouths — as far as the difficult history of Israel is concerned — have the ring of truth about them. There is no unthinkingly zealous Zionism to be found here: Wouk is not afraid to let his characters question the very purpose of Israel, and the death of the young airman Dov Luria is shown to be as wasteful as it is heroic. Wouk has said that his mission in writing *The Hope* and *The Glory* is to give "a vivid sense of what it was like to live in that embattled little land" when these historic events were taking place: he accomplishes what he set out to do, and earns the fireworks that grace his final pages.

Books about the Ark come out two by two, **Brian Alderson** finds

Noah uncorks a new flood

BEING omniscient, the good Lord must have known when he arranged the Flood that he was setting up a future bonanza for publishers. The results can be seen in several recent reworkings of the myth for younger children.

The most extensive is by the illustrator Arthur Geisert. His **The Ark** was first launched in America in 1988 and has now landed on these shores together with its sequel, **After the Flood** (Houghton/Cassell, £8.99 each).

Geisert's approach is mechanistic. In the first of his widescreen volumes, he gives 30 or so pen-drawn scenes which depict, with a minimum of text, incidents from Noah's adventure. The drawings look a bit like old-fashioned prints, and Geisert is at pains to show full details of ark construction and how to cope with a floating menagerie.

He does not go in for dramatic tension though — no raven, and only a perfunctory dove — and even when he turns to life after Ararat in his second book, he is chiefly interested in the mechanics of getting the Ark off the mountain and in the resumption of husbandry in a very peaceable kingdom. Muted colours creep in here, but the illustrative input is all in Geisert's heavy designs, with no attempt at storytelling.

The reverse is the case in Jonathan Allen's **Two by Two by Two** (Orion, £8.99) which jettisons the biblical elements almost completely in favour of a sequence of good-natured but feeble and anachronistic jokes about animal behaviour in arks. Soccer games occur, with the hippo filling the goalmouth. Penguins hibernate in what must be a hydro-electric fridge. But for the educative labels attached to all and sundry, it might be an account of an early cruise on the *QE2*.

Because of its dominant profile, the Ark has proved attractive to pop-up engineers. Indeed, Tony Maddox's new **Noah's Ark** (Heinemann, £10.99) stands at that point where pop-up turns into toy. The book has only a single page-opening, with a huge boat rising from between the covers, and with press-out characters supplied on a separate card so that the "reader" can poke them around the vessel. As a concession to Genesis, a 12-page illustrated booklet by Marianne Borgardt limply sets the scene ("Once, long, long ago, God looked down on the world and felt very sad...")

I am sorry that more effort could not have been put into the text for Brian Wildsmith's **Noah's Ark: The Pop-Up Book** (Oxford, £12.99), which is the most sensitive of all the recent pictorial interpretations. Its virtue lies partly in Wildsmith's delight in drawing animals. His crowds of inquiring goats, severe hippos, and the like contrast happily with Geisert's characterless beasts and Allen's caricatures. At the same time, the book is a carnival of colour: pastoral to begin with, darkly glittering at time of flood, and triumphant with a sunburst at the end.

There is, however, only an intermittent echo of the great text that lies at the foundation of events.

Noah and the animals disembark as the waters recede: from Brian Wildsmith's colourful pop-up *Noah's Ark*

In the twilight home of the gods

■ ODDS AND GODS
By Tom Holt
Orbit, £14.99

TOM Holt, who, at the age of 33, has already published more than a dozen books, is one of Britain's most prolific comic novelists. But his latest effort offers a clue to his enormous output. *Odds and Gods* reads as if it was zapped into a word-processor at one sitting on a rainy day.

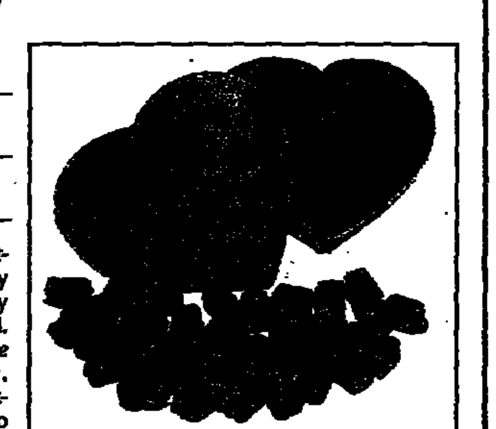
The central idea, that the gods grow old and end up in a suburban nursing home, would make a decent short story, but does not have the legs to carry 300 pages of prose. Holt writes as if on automatic, getting blindly into his rhythm, and often with only the most obvious jokes.

Still, there is plenty to raise a chortle. When Osiris's godson, greedy for his inheritance, tries to get him certified, the old Egyptian god goes on the run with his old friend Pan, master of chaos, enlisting the help of myriad other deities along the way.

Holt's technique is that of the after-dinner speaker who tells as many jokes per minute as he can, on the principle that one or two are bound to get a laugh.

I suspect he relies heavily on a cult following for his readership, and if you are the one in the back row at the cinema who laughs when everyone else is silent, this could be your kind of book.

GILES COREN



THE TIMES VALENTINE'S DAY SPECIAL OFFER

Champagne Truffles

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The chocolates - 250 grams in weight - come in a red velvet heart-shaped presentation box, complete with compliment slip.

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To ensure delivery for Valentine's Day, orders must be received by February 6 at the latest.

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The Times / Dillons Bestsellers

HARDBACK

			Last week	No. weeks
1	WRITING HOME **Alan Bennett** *(Faber)*	£17.50	1	11
2	LONG WALK TO FREEDOM **Nelson Mandela** *(Little Brown)*	£20	3	3
3	THE ART BOOK: VISUAL DOCUMENTARY *(Phaidon)*	£19.99	0	1
4	ON FOOT THROUGH AFRICA **Ffyona Campbell** *(Orion)*	£16.99	0	6
5	INSOMNIA *Stephen King (Hodder)*	£15.99	0	6
6	BATTLE FLAG **Bernard Cornwell** *(HarperCollins)*	£9.99	0	1
7	CLOUGH: THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY **Brian Clough** *(Partridge Press)*	£16.99	5	6
8	CROSSING THE THRESHOLD OF HOPE **Pope John Paul II** *(Cape)*	£9.99	0	6
9	STAR TREK 7: GENERATIONS **J. M. Dillard** *(Simon & Schuster)*	£9.99	0	1
10	THE PRIVATE LIFE OF PLANTS **David Attenborough** *(BBC)*	£17.99	0	1

PAPERBACK

1	AN IMAGINATIVE EXPERIENCE **Mary Wesley** *(Black Swan)*	£5.99	0	1
2	MISS SMILLA'S FEELING FOR SNOW **Peter Høeg** *(Flamingo)*	£5.99	4	11
3	COLD COMFORT FARM **Stella Gibbons** *(Penguin)*	£5.99	0	1
4	FLAT STOMACH PLAN **Rosemary Conley** *(Arrow)*	£7.99	0	1
5	MEN AT ARMS **Terry Pratchett** *(Corgi)*	£4.99	6	7
6	STARGATE **Sean Devlin** *(Signet)*	£4.99	0	1
7	BIRDSONG **Sebastian Faulks** *(Vintage)*	£5.99	0	22
8	OTHER PEOPLE'S MARRIAGES **Rosie Thomas** *(Penguin)*	£5.99	0	1
9	TELL ME THE TRUTH ABOUT LOVE: TEN POEMS **W. H. Auden** *(Faber)*	£2.50	0	12
10	COMPLICITY **Iain Banks** *(Abacus)*	£6.99	19	16
11	POWER **Colin Forbes** *(Pan)*	£4.99	0	1
12	DECIDER **Dick Francis** *(Pan)*	£4.99	2	3
13	THE FERMATA **Nicholson Baker** *(Vintage)*	£5.99	0	1
14	AGAINST A DARK BACKGROUND **Iain Banks** *(Orbit)*	£5.99	0	1
15	BRAVO TWO ZERO **Andy McNab** *(Corgi)*	£5.99	3	16
16	THE ROBBER BRIDE **Margaret Atwood** *(Virgo)*	£5.99	20	9
17	THE FIGHTING MAN **Gerald Seymour** *(HarperCollins)*	£4.99	17	2
18	HAVE I GOT NEWS FOR YOU **Jimmy Mulville and others** *(BBC)*	£6.99	1	6
19	INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE **Anne Rice** *(Warner)*	£4.99	0	1
20	ALL THAT REMAINS **Patricia D. Cornwell** *(Warner)*	£4.99	0	1

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Derwent May reviews the critics

5/5 *Pleasure ratings are awarded to a maximum of five. Column centimetres indicate the length of reviews to date in national broadsheet newspapers*

3/5 **Lear's tears:** Peter Levi's new biography of *Edward Lear* (Macmillan, £20) draws heavily on Lear's unpublished diaries, but in *The Sunday Times* John Carey compared it unfavourably with Vivien Noakes's "classic biography" of 1968. Something mysterious and dreadful happened to Lear when he was a boy, said Carey, but "Levi sheds no light on this. His version follows Noakes's, and, when it differs, seems wrong ... Whether Levi was wise to embark on a biography at all seems questionable". As for Lear himself, Carey saw him as a typical Victorian escapist — for "the Victorians, having created the most advanced civilisation on earth, also created the desire to get away from it". By writing his nonsense poetry, Lear "tried to overcome his grief by ridicule, but only succeeded in sharpening it".

Vivien Noakes herself reviewed the book in *The Daily Telegraph* — and was much more kind to it, calling it "a joyous celebration of a remarkable man". But, she said, Lear's life was "often sad".

In *The Independent on Sunday*, Paul Taylor said Levi's style was appropriate to his subject: "In its hectic, untidy, generous way Levi's book incarnates some of Lear's avid spirit". Taylor took a generally brighter view of Lear: in the nonsense poetry, he thought, the "element of parody" insulates the poems "from the charge of self-pity".

In *The Times*, Peter Ackroyd found the book "chatty, voluble... always interesting". But to him, Lear seemed a very sad man — and the "true spirit of the nonsense" stood revealed in the lines:

He weeps by the side of the ocean,
He weeps on the top of the hill.

Col cms: 243

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Laurie Taylor on a London suburbanite's affable account of a trip beyond the Watford Gap

Ee, it's grimy up north

TO judge by the programme I heard on BBC Radio Leeds last week, this rather jolly account by Charles Jennings *of his fearless trip from the* suburbs of south London to the swamps of northern England is already causing something of a controversy.

An extremely bellicose presenter rounded on Jennings and demanded to know what right he had to say that Leeds was "slightly boring" or that Bradford had become "house-proud in a terrible, middle-class way", or that Blackpool was "a town which would drive any sane person mad". How long had he spent in the North before coming to such conclusions?

Jennings affably explained that what he had to say was only a personal opinion, and that it really hardly took more than a couple of days to reach such views on Leeds, Bradford and Blackpool or to realise that there was "a patina of grime over everything in Manchester" and that "Jarrow gave the impression of having

■ UP NORTH: Travels Beyond the Watford Gap
By Charles Jennings
Little Brown, £15.99

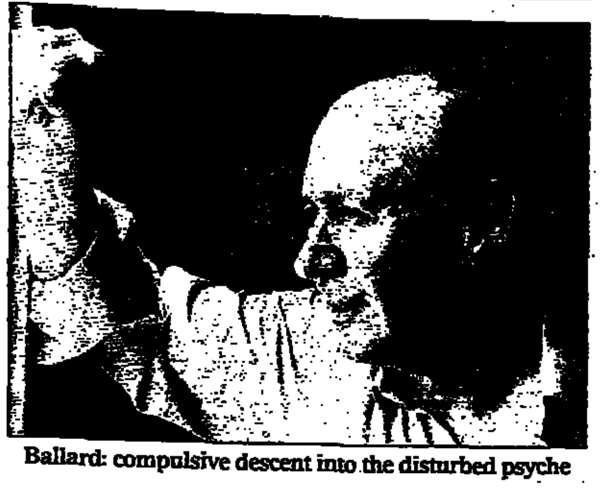
been razed to the ground after the last war and rebuilt with the contents of T. Dan Smith's corporate dustbin". He did, however, mention that he rather liked Birmingham ("that's not up north") and Hebden Bridge.

That hardly got him off the hook. Perhaps someone should have reminded him of the spectator at the Roses match who politely applauded a cover drive and was then turned on by a man in cap and overcoat. "Are you from Yorkshire?" "Er, no." "Lancashire?" "Er, no." "Then shut tha' bloody mouth."

I suspect, though, that only such professional northerners (or paid broadcasters) will be able to sound properly annoyed at Jennings's disarming jaunt. What makes or breaks the book is not so much the validity of the observations as the character who owns up to them — the genial, mildly fastidious, determinedly honest suburbanite, who sets off from London to see if the dinner-table prejudices he has always entertained about the North need serious correction.

For all the author's protestations of ingenuousness, this is a wholly artful creation, a perfect dilettante tourist for our times, who returns from his adventures not with any *Orwellian understanding* of economic exploitation or a Kerouacian revelation of the nature of self, but a double pack of automatic focus snapshots, a dozen good anecdotes about the natives and confirmation that on the whole, wherever one goes, the world is, quite frankly, awfully similar. All that Jennings needs to do now to *make* fame and fortune is to point this very funny creation in a few more directions.

NEW IN PAPERBACK



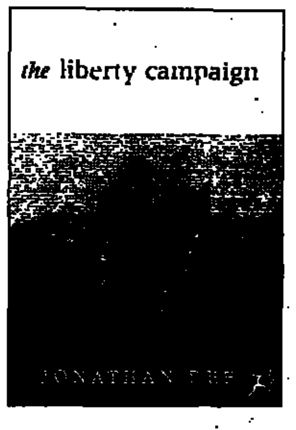
Ballard: compulsive descent into the disturbed psyche

■ CRASH
By J.G. Ballard
Vintage, £5.99

First published in 1973, Ballard's cult novel excites delight and revulsion in equal *measure. The first* editor who read it was so disturbed by its central theme of the erotic potential of the car crash that she wrote: "The author of this book is beyond psychiatric help". Even Ballard himself was disconcerted by its extremity when he read an early proof copy.

Certainly, *Crash* is sinister and pornographic; yet it is also a marvellously gripping exploration of the disturbed psyche. Vaughan, "the nightmare angel of the highways", cruises the network of roads which surround London Airport, waiting to photograph *the mutilated* victims of road accidents. Suffering and atrocity inspire his profoundest fantasies. When he meets Ballard, scarred survivor of an earlier accident, the two men form an obsessive, latently homosexual alliance. Sustained by dreams of catastrophe, they haunt the highways, inspiring each other to ever greater acts of obscenity, which are halted only by Vaughan's spectacularly violent death.

One can criticise Ballard for his bewildering preoccupation with violence and deviance: but the charged, hallucinatory quality of his prose is such that we derive a perverse pleasure from his narrative excesses even as we recoil at the horror of the characters' plight.



the liberty campaign

JONATHAN DEE

■ THE LIBERTY CAMPAIGN
By Jonathan Dee
Bloomsbury, £6.99 (paperback original)

Gene is a New York advertising executive on the verge of retirement. The zenith of his career was a brilliant campaign to sell the US to foreign tourists. As he sinks *into humdrum retreat in* suburban Long Island, he meets a mysterious neighbour who turns out to have a past so sinister that Gene is forced to question the morality of his entire life and work before making a momentous decision. An outstanding and highly intelligent novel that meditates on the ethical *compromises of the Ameri*can dream, the power of advertising, the value of courage and a host of other issues.

■ THE TRUSTEES
By Caro Fraser
Phoenix, £5.99

Money is the root of all evil in Fraser's second novel with a legal setting. Less Aga saga than bleakly satirical morality tale, this story of greedy modern widow Marion Laing's single-minded pursuit of funds with which to support her own extravagant, self-centred lifestyle, her casual neglect of her children and her calculated sexual manipulation of a naive and deluded senior solicitor, reads like an old Hollywood melodrama. Avarice breeds first deceit, then dishonesty and finally disaster. Not a pretty sight.

■ RESERVOIR DOGS
By Quentin Tarantino
Faber, £7.99

"You gonna bark all day, little doggie, or are you gonna bite?" So speaks Mr *Blonde, music lover, psycho*killer, cop torturer and member errant of the black-suited gang of failed heisters holed up in a warehouse, slipping on the blood of their fallen comrades, their fear and their instinct for self-preservation. Tarantino's bravura rebore of the revenger's tragedy crackles as convincingly on the page as it does on the screen; an adrenal flare of very real violence, pop dialogue, hip allusion, and the sounds of the 1970s.

■ ON THE SIDE OF THE ANGELS:
The Second Volume of the Journals of Elizabeth Smart
Edited by Alice Van Wart
Flamingo, £5.99

During the 1940s and 50s, Elizabeth Smart was so busy supporting her four children by the poet George Barker (her unhappy affair with him inspired the classic *By Grand Central Station I Sat Down and Wept*) that the early part of these journals consists mainly of domestic details punctuated by anguished vows to ditch George for ever. But the 1970s and 80s are more compelling. Having at last returned to serious writing, *Smart reflects, always passionately, on* nature, the pain of creativity, and her own troubled, though sometimes blissful, life. Written with a searing immediacy, the journals formed the basis of all Smart's other work.

NICHOLSON BAKER

■ KINDS OF LOVE
By May Sarton
The Women's Press, £6.99

As the small town of Willard, New England, prepares for its bicentennial, the community gains a deeper understanding of its history both public and private. Old and young, native and visitor, rich and poor, all have a share in Willard's kaleidoscopic heritage beneath wooded St Monadnock. Subtly *encompassing* the conflicts between nostalgia and modernity, the poet May Sarton's sensitive, roomy novel celebrates memory, *landscape*, strength in hardship, friendship and the intensely felt landmarks of emotional life, especially in old age. A touching portrait of American country life.

■ THE FERMATA
By Nicholson Baker
Vintage, £5.99

Dismissed as "boffin porn", Baker's fourth novel is in fact the unsettling study of a man in the grip of a terrible obsession. Arno Strine, a Dantaesque 35, has an amazing talent: he can freeze time and manipulate the will of others for his own delight. This sounds like every schoolboy's sweetest fantasy — and sure enough Arno uses his unusual skill to satisfy his perverted sexual longings. Yet as he sinks deeper into depravity, what, at first, seemed to offer freedom and *boundless* opportunity ultimately becomes nothing but an intolerable burden which he longs to escape.

● *Contributors: Jason Cowley, Alexander Ross, Alison Burns, Jake Michie, Nicki Household*

"Free at last. Free at last. Thank God almighty, we are free at last": Dr Martin Luther King at the Lincoln Memorial, August 28, 1963, from *He had a Dream: Martin Luther King Jr and the Civil Rights Movement* by Flip Schulke (W. W. Norton, £32)

Guilty of parenthood

A taut courtroom thriller that explores parental vulnerabilty keeps **Peter Millar** on the edge of his seat

THE best line Shakespeare ever wrote — and one of the least remarked — was four words put in the mouth of the bereaved Macduff: "He has no children". Only another parent could even grasp at his grief.

The world has long been unequally divided into those who have children and those who do not. The obvious joys of parenthood are set in the scales not just against the responsibilities but also against the immense vulnerability that loving a child gives us. Not only do we have to weigh up the knock-on effects of each and every one of our actions, but we become fragile *creatures ourselves,* intensely vulnerable to any potential blow to our offspring.

It is against this background that Richard North Patterson has set his tense new courtroom thriller, *Eyes of a Child.* The scenario is a parent's nightmare: a fraught legal custody battle in a divorce, horrendously aggravated *when the* ne'er-do-well father accuses his wife's lover's teenage son of sexually abusing their daughter. Immediately the mesh of human relationships goes into gridlock, which is then shattered when the father is found dead, apparently murdered.

North Patterson: at his best in the courtroom

■ EYES OF A CHILD
By Richard North Patterson
Hutchinson, £9.99

Eyes of a Child is, in fact, a sequel to the best selling *Degree of Guilt*, at least insofar as it features many of the same characters, but it can also stand alone for readers with no knowledge of the previous book. Just occasionally the romantic scenes slip over the top into Mills & Boon language but generally North Patterson is a fluid prose writer, clearly at his best in the taut courtroom scenes.

This is the sort of book that makes me profoundly thankful for the crusty British legal system, horsehair wigs and all. From the cynical, racial and social selection game played in cross-examining potential jurors down to the advocates' pally, *first-name* familiarity in court, the American legal system comes across as essentially alien: derived from ours but gone its own definitive way. North Patterson skilfully plays on the potential for abuse in a system where public prosecutors — the district attorney in America — are political players, *themselves required to stand* for election to retain their jobs. Here is proof that justice and the law are rarely the same.

Eyes of a Child is a gripping story of the way in which human relationships can become snarled: a vision of life as a tightrope act above a precipice. It is a well-crafted book with a neat (in the British sense) series of twists and turns that continue almost to the final page. It deserves to do well and, at the special hardback price of £9.99, almost certainly will.

Giving up the weed does not make you fat. Or does it? Two gurus fight it out

No smoking without fire

IS the hypnotic effect of Allen Carr's new book, *The Only Way to Stop Smoking Permanently*, intentional? Does he deliberately encourage a dozy state, the better to startle and impress *with his capitalised* messages: HOW EASY AND NICE IT IS TO BECOME A NON-SMOKER!

Carr insists in this book, as he did in *Allen Carr's Easy Way to Stop Smoking* (reissued this month), that you must read every word on his 500 pages and that if you fail to give up smoking, you must go back and start again (now, there's an incentive to give up permanently). If, instead, you skip to Chapter 40, titled "The Instructions", you will find Carr's method delivered on two pages and with a lot of caps (ADVICE: IGNORE IT IF IT CONFLICTS WITH MINE!). He says the key to his method is "to understand the nature of the trap" and to reverse the brainwashing which leads smokers to

■ THE ONLY WAY TO STOP SMOKING PERMANENTLY
By Allen Carr
Penguin, £6.99

■ HOW TO STOP SMOKING WITHOUT GAINING WEIGHT
By Martin Katahn, Ph.D
Bantam Books, £3.99

believe that smoking is enjoyable and something that will be missed. He kicks away the smokers' props one by one: Carr does not believe in the addictive personality, advises against substitutes, says no change of lifestyle is necessary for the newly nicotine free, unless they desire it, and denounces the idea that you put on weight simply by stopping smoking.

Dying for a fag? Tell this *poor creature about it*

Go tell it to Martin Katahn, Mr Carr. Katahn is the author of *How to Stop Smoking without Gaining Weight*, in which he claims that 70 per cent of those who give up smoking gain up to 12lb and that one in seven women (one in ten men) will gain 2st or more. He advises a change of *lifestyle* and the use of *nicotine* substitutes to avoid becoming a fat former smoker.

Katahn's 7+7 Programme suggests one week to start decreasing the fat in your diet, increase carbohydrates (he gives menus) and become more active (45 minutes "activity" a day) before one week to give up smoking, with nicotine patches if necessary.

Despite Carr's sympathetic chapter on women smokers, Katahn's approach has more appeal for me (though those weight gain statistics might *have* the *teenage smoker* scrabbling for her Marlboro Lights). But presumably Carr would say that is because I am not yet ready to confess that I am a nicotine junkie.

Brigid Callaghan

An Asian breeze

LIKE Colin Thubron, Giles Whittell travelled across Central Asia in the months following the collapse of the Soviet Union. Both found a bewildered region, vast and magical, caught between celebrating its new freedom and *fretting about the future.*

There, however, the comparison ends. Thubron is a thoughtful, introspective writer with a keen understanding of the subtleties of race and a genuine sympathy for those who have lived under the Communist yoke. Whittell's strengths lie elsewhere. *Extreme Continental*, as the title implies, is a romp.

Whittell, a witty and engaging writer who reports from Los Angeles for *The Times*, breezes through Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Kirghizstan. He buys a hefty Russian motorbike, falls in with foreign correspondents waiting for Tajikistan to "blow" and is accused, more than once, of being a spy.

It says much for the lightness of Whittell's touch that, against the background of the region's tragic past, he has still managed to fashion a vivid, witty book. He has an eye for comic detail. In Chardzhou, he gets wildly drunk with a Turcoman who, after one vodka too many, starts to throw punches. It was, it turns out, just his way of making his friends feel at home.

■ EXTREME CONTINENTAL: Blowing Hot and Cold Through Central Asia
By Giles Whittell
Victor Gollancz, £16.99

Whittell is less assured when it comes to the region's history. When recounting facts he is workmanlike but lacks the seamlessness that so marks out Thubron's prose.

The book takes its title from the meteorological term for the region's climate — so called because it is so far from moderating oceans. It is a *striking phrase and more* than just an empty metaphor. Near the end of his journey, in Semipalatinsk, in Kazakhstan's far northwestern corner, a scientist shows Whittell human foetuses deformed by nuclear radiation. It is a gruesome freak-show. These are the extremes from which Central Asia is beginning the *slow process of recovery.*

Edward Marriott

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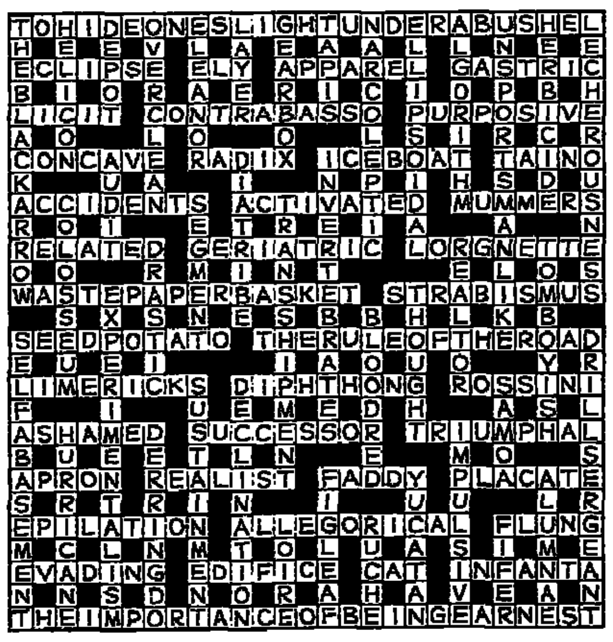

HERE is the solution to the prize jumbo crossword that appeared on New Year's Eve. The following successful entrants each win £100: A.E. Jones, of Ware, Hertfordshire; N. Williams, of Bromham, Bedfordshire; H. Charles Davis, of Horrabridge, Yelverton, Devon; S. McCrone, of Thames Ditton, Surrey; G.B. Wood, of Stoke Poges, Buckinghamshire; C.A. Elsworth, of Yeadon, Leeds, West Yorkshire.

TIMES BOOKS

THURSDAY

The Holocaust and its aftermath: reviews by Julia Neuberger, Adam Zamoyski, Tibor Fischer; plus new fiction and criticism, including Rachel Cusk on Updike

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LADIES

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LADIES

ATTRACTIVE cultured lady doctor 40's the arts, sport, travel. WLTM refined cosmopolitan witty gentleman of integrity for committed relationship. Photo app.London area.Box No 3067

BEAUTIFUL solvent business lady 50yrs young with countryhouse WLTM a gentleman of similar status for friendship or more. Oxon/Warwk borders. Please Reply to Box No 3139

BEST side of 50, 5'8". Enjoys tennis, dogs. Lives in Sx. Seeks "character" man with laughter lines. Box No 3024

BRIGHT, lively woman (51) seeks equally exciting companion for fun and good love!!! A tall, dark and handsome chap prefered! Please send photo and details to Box No 3152

CLASSY slim solvent lady mid 40's described as very attractive WLTM n/s well-educated gentleman 45-55ish 5'10"+ GSOH to share enjoyment of the good things in life including opera, arts, good food and wine, countryside. M4 corridor will travel!Reply to Box No 3059

EAST MIDLANDS. Slim, prof. n/s, widow 48. Good-natured, sensible but not prosaic; usual cultural interests, enjoys family life, caring, sharing. And you? Reply to Box No 2988

DYNAMIC petite pretty blonde business woman 46 loves theatre restaurants and all the good things in life WLTM similar gentlemen 48-55. Photo would be nice. Herts area. Please Reply to Box No 3097

EDINBURGH based, English born n/s female 29; attractive, intelligent (academic orientation), fit & health-conscious, GSOH, seeks similar male 29-38 for lasting rel. Box No 3090

ELEGANT, charming, intelligent, attractive lady with GSOH mid 50's n/s loves town & country life & has many other interests. WLTM active, sincere, generous, caring gentleman Public School background who enjoys travel, the arts, animals, comfort & good food. Photo app. Please Reply to Box No 3031

ESHER-WAITROSE. Warm, distinguished gent. Why don't I feel your glances anymore - (noon & early Sats)? Missed you since 15/8/94. Delight this bright-eyed brunette.Box 3050

EXOTIC sensuous mixed race lady likes all music/theatre, travel WLTM English gentleman for genuine friendship between 45-60. London based. Please Reply to Box No 3140

EXUBERANT, but lonely Cheltenham-based, professional lady (42) seeks tall, fit, well-educated, successful gentleman to explore life's riches. Must be single, n/s, arts & sports lover, GSOH for fun! Photo - please reply to Box No 2954

EYE-CATCHING blonde, Jewish, 40's divorcee - great figure - loves life in the fast lane! Are you successful, generous and kind? If so, reply Box 3089

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GOLF, sun sea, travel. I love them all, but need someone to take me there. Friendship is born not bought, so this is not for sale, but on approval to a gallant knight, 45-55ish. Photo please. Box No 3080

GOTT Nytt Ar. Hauskaa Uutta Vuotta, from a Scandinavian female, settled in London, Prof. early 40's, tall, slim, fit, n/s, seeks a sporty, tall male with GSOH & into all good things in life. My New Year's resolution, remain positive, stay optimistic, what's yours. Please reply with recent photo to Box No 2940

GREAT OUTDOORS in muddy boots or indoors in slinky frocks, this warm, optimistic, creative, slim brunette awaits warm, considerate, active, presentable 60-ish man for company, love and adventures. London/S.E. Box No 3101.

GREEN-EYED attractive brunette 56, drama lecturer. Sensitive, lively, many civilised interests, adventurous spirit, seeks cultured, professional man, kind and affectionate. Photo appreciated. London /home counties preferred. Please Reply to Box No 3050

INTERESTING professional gentleman to join like-minded ladies for Valentines dinner in the Cotswolds.Box No 3019

HIGH-FLYING attractive confident blonde GSOH likes tennis, travel, cinema, and being fed! Seeks eligible, tallish, n/s, good-looking gent. 39-49 for good honest fun. West London. Recent photo please. Please Reply to Box No 3028

I am good looking, well spoken, privately educated, 5'6" tall, late 40's, with warm, outgoing personality. I wish to meet a kind man, similar background 48-55 with an easygoing temperament who would share interests that include country pursuits, the arts, classical music, travel, Box No 3077

THIS woman is delightfully different blonde and witty, petite and pretty. Looking for successful man with a good personality 47-57, S.E. area. Box No 3096

I live in the Channel Islands. I am attractive, fair haired, slim, well spoken, intelligent, interferties. no family ties. Interests include poetry, the arts, spiritual growth, music, country living. I wish to meet someone privately educated, 50's to early 60's, a country lover, non smoker, solvent with no family commitments 5'11" and over. Please Reply to Box No 3074

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MULTI-lingual, well travelled lady wishes to accompany gentleman on a luxury cruise. Please Reply to Box No 3062

PETITE brunette, Prof 28, funloving, outgoing, intelligent, witty and spontaneous, seeks similar male for happy a future!! Photo and phone number please to Box No 3131

PRIVATE SUPPER PARTY. 20 of us, attractive, urban prof.Pub sch 30's. Enquiries welcome from Pub sch, urban prof chaps under 45 wishing to join us. Patricia 081 392 9009

2 single white females striking sensitive intelligent GSOH. WLTM males with same assets. Photo ensures reply. London /S.E.Reply to Box No 3066

SCOTLAND, green eyed redhead (40) Edinburgh based, seeks forty something successful man with good sense of humour for fun outings. Box No 3076

TWO intelligent lively lovely Jewish women WLTM 2 intelligent lively lovely Jewish men aged 40-50. Photo ess. London.Reply Box No 3073

SERENDIPITY doesn't come easily! Tall, slim, warm, outgoing female. Interests in golf and walking. Seeks similar gentleman 50-60. Cheshire area but willing to travel. Photo app. Please Reply to Box No 3054

SOCIALLY gregarious, romantically shy Antipodean woman, 36, London based. Slim, stylish, tactile, talkative, seeks man of interest, intellect, integrity and indulgence to befriend, accompany + care for. photo/letter appreciated. Box No 3086

SOLVENT, kind, gent wanted who seeks company of kind, smart, mature, GSOH lady 5'6½". East Anglia. Own home, car, holiday home, Likes the good things in life. Photo App. Please Reply to Box No 3057

STUNNING blue-eyed blonde ex-model with brains slender vivacious feminine sophisticated stylish humorous warm & tender 42 & unattached seeks tall dark-haired attractive slim masculine gentleman for ever! Please Reply to Box No 3098

TALL, attractive, vivacious, mature lady many interests GSOH seeks tall, educated, cultured gentleman n/s with warm outgoing personality & perhaps a future holiday companion? Kent.Reply to Box No 3105

WONDERFUL witty winsome woman (40's) wants to meet marvellous magnificent magnanimous man 35-45 n/s for an adventurous amorous affair (for ever!) S.E. area. Photo appreciated. Box No 3093

GENTLEMEN

AFFABLE, attractive American prof. (49) seeks interesting, thoughtful lady (34-40) with a sense of humour who enjoys theatre, museums & travel for a meaningful relationship. Please write with photo Box No 3087

ALL-ROUND nice attractive tall man 42 into all things bright and beautiful seeks lovable lady. Photo app. London & home counties. Box No 3091

A RECIPE For Romance: start with reasonably handsome blue eyed blonde 39 loving generous kind & honest however not perfect add in theatre restaurants travel romantic evenings in/out. Blend with attractive stylish tall lady. Serves 2 for friendship possible LTR photo appreciated. Box No 3100

ARE you a stylish, attractive, caring female 26-36 G.S.O.H. Good-looking, casual Cheshire business guy W.L.T.M. you. Photo & ph. no to Box No 3104

ATTRACTIVE Surrey/Sussex lady sought by attractive 07 Surrey/Sussex man. I am 55 solvent and momentarily reticent! Reply to Box No 3018

ASIAN lady (35/45) with humour, grace & intelligence sought by divorced English businessman living in London. Interests varied - dining, romance & travel. Please respond with photograph to Box No 2908

ARE you honest? Successful businessman 46 Surrey based. Bored with fast cars and fast living seeks soulmate to enjoy the things money can't buy - Intelligent conversation, friendly candlelit dinners, country walks on a winters day (with an obligatory stop in a local pub to warm by the fire). Laughter, tenderness & more cuddles. It's the one trip I can't do alone. If you are attractive 30-40 and missing the one essential ingredient that makes everything worthwhile - the right partner. Please send letter & photo to Box No 3058

CIVILISED London man, financially secure, active 59, interested in music, travel, history, food and wine seeks warm, slim, intelligent lady for happy times together. Photo helps. Please Reply to Box No 3114

ATTRACTIVE, successful, slim 40yr old who enjoys cinema, eating out, travel, skiing or just staying in seeks slim lady 30-40 yrs with similar interests for mutually fulfilling times. London /S.East photo app. reply to Box No 3085

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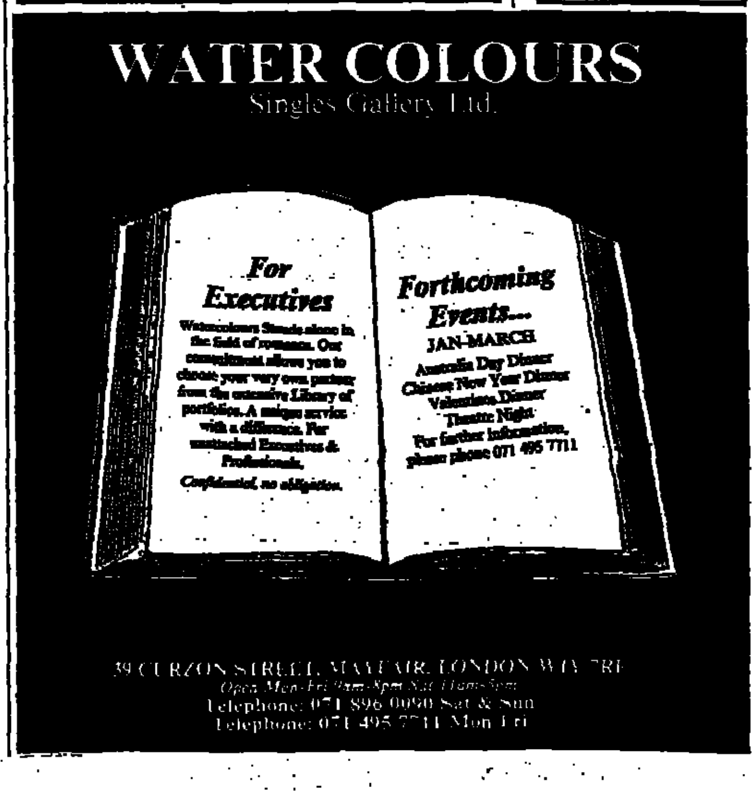

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GENTLEMEN

AUSTRALIAN based professional man. Graduate, fifties, good looking, fin. indep., no enc., seeks well-educated soul mate, age to 45, unattached, presentable & solvent, who enjoys class. music, theatre, countryside, travel & more, for mutually supportive life in her country or mine. Pls. reply with recent photo to P.O. Box 381, Burleigh Heads, Queensland, 4220, Australia.

BACHELOR (Recycled) some assets (allegedly charming, witty and solvent at last audit) But some liabilities (bald, bossy and boozy?) seeks lady, 38/47, short, slender for fun, friendship and the future. London based. Box No 3088

CREATIVE professional man, conventional on the surface but deep underneath, seeks woman soulmate to share life and laughs with mid 30's, tall & self-aware. Interests include sport, music, travel and the outdoors. Reply to Box No 3119

ENGLISHMAN, house in S.W. France, flat in S.W. London, seeks n/s, educated, fit, French speaking English woman, 50-65, to play tennis, ski downhill, & enjoy opera, gardening, food & wine. Non-working ex-wife preferred.Reply to Box No 3088

CULTURED professional man, fond of travel, classical music, bridge etc would like to meet attractive lady (45-60) for companionship leading to marriage if compatible. Surrey /Sussex /London preferred. Photo appreciated.Box No 2745.

EVERYTHING I want except you - if around 35, slim, sensuous, eyecatching and ready for a memorable and possibly permanent relationship please send detailed letter & recent photo which will be returned by a 45 year old single company director living one hour from Lincoln. Reply to Box No 2781

GENTLEMAN, early 60s (insists birth certificate), well educated, affluent, sincere, hopes to share the good things in life and especially plenty of tender loving care with a bright, intelligent, slimish lady (48-58) who hopefully is reading her Times in the Merseyside/ Cheshire area. Please Reply to Box No 2757

INTERESTING professional ladies to join like-minded gentleman for Valentines dinner in the Cotswolds.Box No 3019

HUMANIST being, male, academic, artistic, solvent, late 40's but slim and pretty fit (vegetarian), residing Surrey, seeks elegant, professional woman (nationality unimportant), to share life's pleasures and pains, to enjoy culture, recreation and travel.Reply to Box No 2972

LITERATE humorous man, tall, 56, emotionally and financially stable but romance-starved, seeks stylish intelligent woman for close companionship and mutual enjoyment of normal civilised interests. N/S in home counties. North preferred. Please Reply to Box No 3094

MILLIONAIRE single, 43, tender, protective, humorous, seeks baby-woman similar Jan March, under 30, very slim, pretty face for long weekend of ski and many trips in tropical islands. Photos essential. Please Write to Box No 3664

NORTH LONDON publishing chap, 40s, seeks feminine, jolly lady, 30s-40s, to turn over a new leaf.Reply Box No 2995

OXFORD GRADUATE, wife sadly died aged 34, daughter boarding, seeks gentle, perceptive, possibly shy establishment girl, probably 28/40, n.s., believer, who would value the extra love and treasuring of somebody old enough to be her father but full of go. Georgian house in village. Travel, theatre, skiing. Cautious - telephoning - first. Nobody need know.Box 2805

ROMANCE instore & affluent London lawyer seeks attractive friendly lady 30-40 to share fun music & laughter. Photo with letter appreciated, Please Reply to Box No 3096

SEA-NYMPH preferably attractive adventurous petite and outgoing sought to sail the Mediterranean with me this summer. Photo and details please to Box No 3042

SINGLE male, late 30's, n/s, working in the financial sector in Manchester, racehorse trained in Lincs. Seeks female to share hopes, dreams, ambitions, especially regards the horses. 1995 is my year, will it be yours? Reply to Box No 3055

SURREY based professional, newly single, own business, n/s, late 40's seeks special slim elegant sensuous lady 30-45 for fun, outings, holidays etc. If you want lots of T.L.C. Apply (photo appreciated). Box No 3063

SURREY business man 54 seeks slimmish lady to travel to somewhere sunny Feb/March! Please Reply to Box No 3039

TALL, slim, Staffs. based gent, 39, enjoys countryside, conversation, humour, seeks warm-hearted, intelligent lady, 28-38. Please reply to Box No 3069

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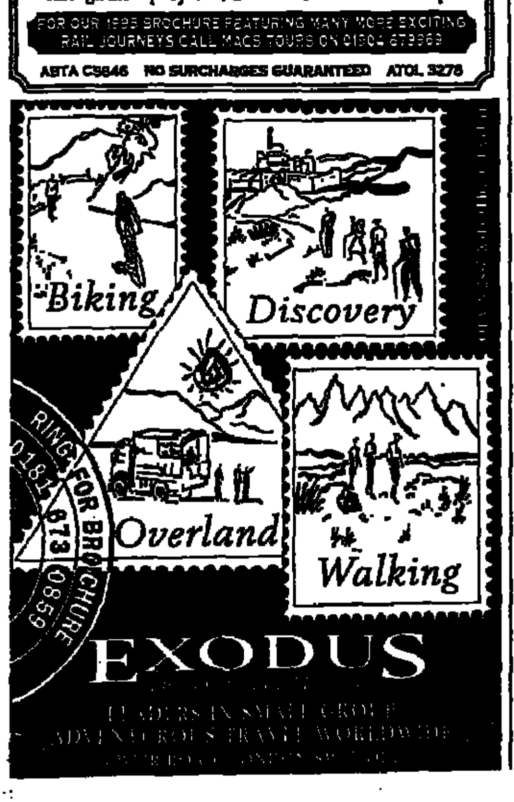
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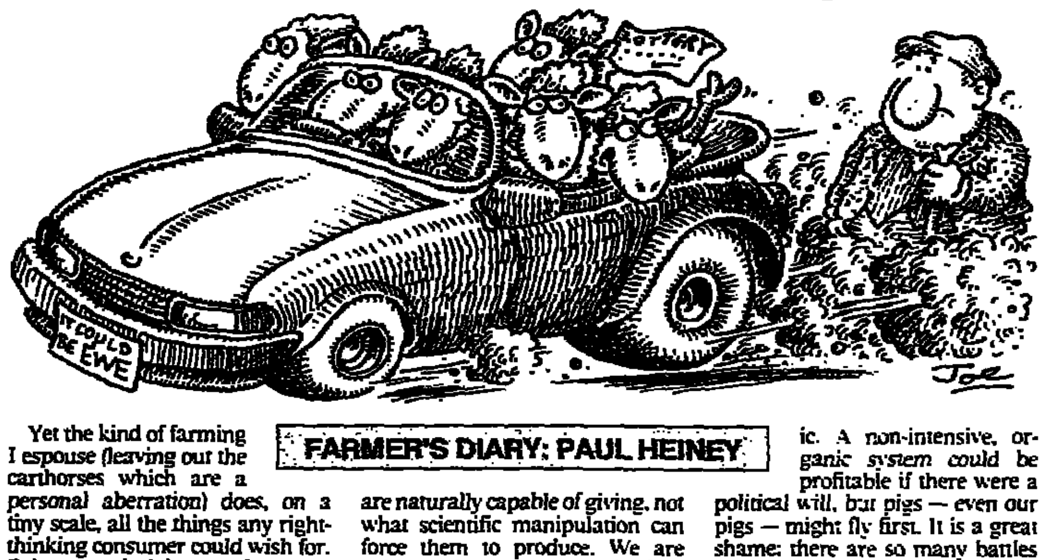

I think the Church is right and we have all become too obsessed with the National Lottery. I can remember the days when I went to plough, both eyes fixed either to the bobbing heads of the carthorses, the squeaking wheels of the plough, or to the white stick at the other end of the field at which I was aiming.

But not now. I still have an eye for the horses and the furrow, but the other eye wanders. We start lambing in a month's time and by way of preparation I have marked all the ewes by spraying a large number on their backs. It is very useful when lambs need to be reunited with their mothers, and makes the task easier of keeping an eye on any sheep that is looking a little under the weather.

So I trudge along the furrow, and I watch the sheep. Ah, I say to myself; number 23 is standing close to 38 and separate from the flock. I take this as an omen, and make note of the numbers. Then 16 wanders over to join them and I mark this, too. If I ever see six standing in a group, I dash to the paper shop to mark my lottery ticket accordingly.

I fear I cannot recommend this method of number selection. I suppose I should have learnt by now that sheep are too cussed to make life that easy for me. Nevertheless, a win on the lottery would come in handy. Farming the way we do is hellishly expensive, and a little relief would be welcome.

The problem with traditional and non-intensive farming, I am afraid, is that food is too plentiful and cheap for anyone but the largest operators to be able to make a profit out of producing it. Food has become just another consumer commodity: nobody bothers to urge children to "waste not, want not" for there need never be any want when supermarket shelves are packed to bursting at prices all but the poorest can afford. Although we may not care to admit it, food is now a disposable item. We only realise it when we have to confront the disposal process, as we look into the eyes of calves facing export.

Yet the kind of farming I espouse (leaving out the carthorses which are a personal aberration) does, on a tiny scale, all the things any right-thinking consumer could wish for. Being organic, it is as environmentally friendly as you can get; it treats farm animals with respect and demands of them what they are naturally capable of giving, not what scientific manipulation can force them to produce. We are neither polluters nor vandals of the landscape. We are employers too; this is all labour-intensive stuff.

Alas, it is hopelessly uneconomic. A non-intensive, organic system could be profitable if there were a political will, but pigs — even our pigs — might fly first. It is a great shame: there are so many battles worth fighting. I would like to restore more hedgerows, capture more land for organic growing, give more animals a better life . . .

Now that I have given up on my flock coming up with the winning numbers, as I plough I fantasise about a letter which will drop through the door any day now. I may have been watching too many of those National Trust anniversary programmes about people leaving their estates to good causes, but the letter I have in mind will be from a firm of solicitors, probably with a select Bloomsbury address. It will begin:

"Dear Mr Heiney, You may not be aware of the late Esme Cuckold (or some such name) who sadly died at the end of last year, but she used to observe you through her binoculars when visiting her niece on the hill opposite your farm, and believed you to have a great understanding of nature and an admirably firm hand with pigs. She has therefore bequeathed to you her entire estate . . ."

Here you can fill in the blanks for yourself. There are few farmers, I suspect, crippled by land rents or mortgages, who have not had similar daydreams. For myself, I would rather hope that dear old Esme had left me a traditional mixed farm, livestock and arable, fenced and watered so I would not have to go through the nightmare of plumbing and pile-driving again. It would be set amidst a rolling landscape, perhaps near the Downs of southern England, or on the Scottish borders. Its traditional farm buildings would still be intact, and the soil fertile. If you can hear me up there, Esme, you can rest assured that it will be well cared for, farmed to the highest of moral standards; and thank you for endowing it with cash enough to pay a fair wage to those who work the thrashing machine, dig the ditches, make the hay, and bring home the harvest.

Sweet dreams. Just in case the late Miss Cuckold's solicitor does not see this, and the Government unaccountably fails within the next seven days to recognise the value of small, organic farms and reward them accordingly, I noticed ewe 41 has a broad smile on her face. I might jot that down for next week.

How a cider company turned a pollution disaster into an ecological triumph

Geoff Warren on the ten-acre wetland designed to neutralise effluent from the cider making. Inset, cider barrels in Weston's factory yard

Wetland from cider muck

In 1992 Westons, the family-owned Herefordshire cider maker, was fined £5,000 for polluting local watercourses. Not a pleasant occurrence, recalls Geoff Warren, the company cider maker. But the salutary fine, and the need to ensure the accidental pollution did not happen again, encouraged the company to create a ten-acre wetland planted with thousands of trees.

Cider making is a dirty business. Apples often come into the yard covered in mud and leaves, with any bruised and rotten fruit oozing sugars and organic acids. A fine apple pulp accumulates on the presses, and fermentation residues build up in vats. Everything needs to be washed and scrubbed clean, giving rise to millions of gallons a year of dirty water.

This effluent may not be exactly poisonous, but it has a very high biological oxygen demand. In other words, if it finds its way into a stream, it will fast strip the oxygen out of the water and kill any fish present. Most of the effluent is generated during the apple harvesting months of September and October when daily flows can exceed fourty thousand gallons.

For as long as Mr Warren can remember, the waste water had simply been piped down to "the swamp" — a four-acre field at the bottom of the hill, thick with reeds and bullrushes, from where it slowly dispersed into the environment. No one realised that a steadily rising volume of effluent was putting the system under stress — until the day the swamp overflowed into a nearby stream, Much Marcle Brook — and the National Rivers Authority brought its prosecution.

The obvious answer would have been to install a conventional waste water treatment system — ugly and expensive perhaps, but at least guaranteed to prevent any further pollution. But the company first decided to take a look at the swamp that had, after all, served it well over the years.

"The first thing we did after the prosecution," Mr Warren says, "was to have a good hard look at what we were already doing. And we were staggered to find that our little swamp was taking out 80 per cent of the biological oxygen demand. We knew it was doing something but this was much more than we had expected."

So the firm decided to expand the swamp and to refine its design to help nature to do an even better job. At the heart of the system are the countless billions of micro-organisms that degrade the organic wastes, reducing them to carbon dioxide and water. "Our waste is their food," Mr Warren says. "That's the principle on which it all works."

To give the bacteria time to eat their dinners, the flow of water needs to be slowed down through a sequence of ditches, banks and ponds. No less important, the bacteria need places to live in, and tree roots make ideal homes. So far, some 24,000 slips of willow have been planted into the banks, along with lesser numbers of poplar, oak and lime.

All manner of waste seems to find its place. The earth dug out while making the ponds has been banked up around the perimeter to make sure no water escapes into surrounding streams. Cardboard from the factory has been spread over the ground to restrain weeds and grasses, then covered with pomace — the apple pulp, oxidised to a deep brown, that is left behind after the juice has been squeezed out.

This mulch then makes the ideal growing medium for willows, Mr Warren says. The young trees can establish themselves free of root competition, and the thick organic layer helps to retain moisture through the summer.

> ❛ We hope that local schools will watch the wetland evolve ❜

Birds seem to like it too: flocks of hundreds of sparrows and chaffinches regularly alight on the pomace to pick out the nutritious apple pips. Other birds have been seen on the wetland as well: snipe, duck, moorhens and even a few herons. "There's no fish in the ponds for the herons yet," Mr Warren says, "but I suppose they can live in hope."

As the waste water enters the wetland from a holding pond up the hill, it is hard to imagine it supporting a wildlife community: it has a blackened, unhealthy look and a rotten smell. But the improvement in quality is striking as it meanders through the snaking ditches and pools.

By the time the effluent reaches the second pool, it is still a little cloudy but the blackness has vanished. And in the last two ponds, planted with water weeds, yellow and blue flag iris, water mint, arrowheads and water soldier, the water is clean-smelling and discernibly brighter.

Not that you would quite want to drink it, but then that is not the intention: the treated water, clean smelling if still a little cloudy, is not directly released into streams but used for spray irrigating nearby fields.

"We found a wonderful variety of water beetles and daphnia down here over the summer and autumn," Mr Warren says. "This was a living confirmation that the system was actually working. These are very early days, but it does seem to show we're moving in the right direction."

As the trees grow, and other flora and fauna get established, the appearance and biological function of the system will be transformed. "We hope it will become a local nature reserve," Mr Warren says. "There are very few other wetlands around here, and we look forward to getting schools down to watch it evolve, and to watch the wildlife come in."

The wetland may also be able to meet some of Weston's future needs. The willows will be cut back in a few years time, to ensure their continued vigour and thirst for excess nutrients in the effluent, and this will yield a regular crop of fuelwood to warm the factory and offices.

As for the oak, this won't be harvested for a century or more, but Mr Warren is already making designs on it. "Just think," he says, "one day we'll be able to make our cider vats out of our very own oak. Won't that be the ultimate in recycling?"

OLIVER TICKELL

Feather report

I spy a bittern hidden among the reeds

A bittern: rare sighting

I AM not a natural twitcher. I would far rather stumble across a moderately uncommon bird, like a wryneck, for myself than stand on a crowded beach, hemmed in by telescopes like small cannons, and prams full of cameras, trying to see the first Forster's tern recorded for years. (There actually has been one — a visitor from America — near Edinburgh recently.)

However, two or three bitterns are back in a reed-bed just outside a hide near Cheshunt, in the Lea valley north of London. They are birds that one very rarely gets a good view of. In Norfolk and Suffolk, the only counties where they still breed, people hear their booming call echoing round the reed-beds on a summer's evening, but are lucky to get more than a glimpse of one suddenly flying by on owl-like wings and dropping into the impenetrable reeds again.

So I went to the hide last week. It was full of people who fell into two distinct categories — those who could see a bittern in the reeds just in front of them and those who couldn't. The ones who could were looking intently through the viewing slots with their field-glasses saying: "There, there — by those three bent reeds, crouching very low — you can just see the barring on the flanks."

"Where, where?" the others were saying with an air of anguish.

The bird was certainly well-camouflaged. I couldn't detect it at first. Then one of the reeds shook slightly and I got it. In fact it was just about to move, and I saw it stalk a few feet though the water, a shadowy, hunchbacked shape.

It stopped again in a thick clump of reeds and went motionless. But by now I had it. I could make out its long beak, its gleaming eye, its dark crown — more blue than black, it seemed to me, though it is always described as black — its flecked breast and barred body. Once or twice it turned its head slowly; once, perhaps hearing a noise from the hide, it looked straight at us, opened its beak and hissed slightly.

I tried to pick out a distinct piece of vegetation near it so that I could find it again if I took my glasses off it. But a dark reed-leaf that is very obvious through the glasses vanishes without them. The bittern was quite invisible to the naked eye, though it was only four of five yards away, and I almost lost it. I did, luckily, find it again, and eventually I found a long, dried-up nettle which proved a reliable guide-line to it.

It is worth travelling some distance to see this remarkable creature. Only one bird was detected the day I was there, but one or possibly two others have been reported. Judging from past years, they will stay there until next month, then return either to East Anglia or Holland.

If it is not there — or you just cannot see it — there are some other good birds around. On one of the channels of the River Lea, quite near the hide, there were about five goldeneye ducks diving the day I was there, and there were smews far out on a nearby lake.

The hide is called the Waverley hide. It is open to the public free at weekends from 10am — 4pm, and because of the bitterns is also open on the other weekdays at present, but on those days it costs £1, payable to a warden who looks in from time to time. Maps and details from the Countryside Centre, Abbey Gardens, Waltham Abbey, Essex, EN9 1XQ (0992 713838).

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ON SAFARI IN TANZANIA: The reality of life among the animal kingdom's hunters and the hunted

STEVE BLOOM

Thirst for survival: "We watched two male lions tear a dead elephant to shreds, wrenching greedily at the fresh red meat"

Too close for comfort

I woke with a start to a tremendous crashing and ripping sound filling the deep blackness around me. Lifting the tent flap I could dimly make out a huge shape bearing down on me. The intruder edged nearer and stopped inches away from my face, breathing heavily.

Immobilised, I waited for the beast to charge, trample all over me, or at the very least trip over a guy rope and bring the tent down. But the elephant was much more interested in the palm trees outside, and the ferocious tearing noise started up again as he tried to pull down massive fronds laden with fruit.

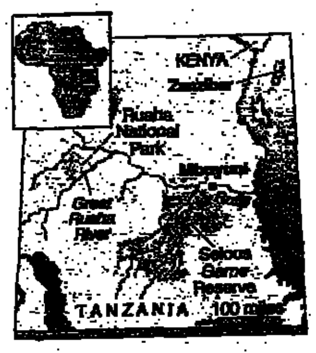
The next morning the ground was strewn with the wreckage of the midnight feast, the palm trees battered and bent, as if a hurricane had swept through the camp site.

The new Mbuyuni site in the Selous Game Reserve in southern Tanzania had been pitched among the palms to get maximum shade, its American manager, Salvatore Economos, explained as I emerged wearily at dawn. "The elephants have been coming here for years to feed. They are not going to be put off by a few tents."

Spotting wildlife in the grey early morning light was more difficult. The guide patiently pointed to two spindly speckled tree trunks in the distance. Myopically I picked up my binoculars, uncertain what I was looking for, to see the two enormous soulful eyes of a giraffe staring straight at me.

From then on, trees turned into giraffe, boulders into elephants, rocks into hippopotamuses, cliffs into crocodiles and bushes into kudu as I gradually became more aware of the camouflage vital to an animal's survival.

Mbuyuni is the newest of the four camps now set up in the Selous, the largest and most remote of the African game reserves, stretching over 25,000 square kilometres in southern Tanzania. Billed as a luxury tented camp, it has all the prerequisite trappings — vast double beds, electric halogen lights, wardrobes, ensuite bathrooms with flush lavatories, pedestal basins and showers, all contained in 12 huge canvas tents.



The setting is magnificent, on the banks of a tributary of the Rufiji river which opens out onto a beautiful lake surrounded by palm trees and lush green plants which thrive on the water's borders. At lunchtime the lakeside area, known now as the "market place" is dotted with zebra, impala, giraffe, wildebeest, and elephants, which have all been driven from the arid savannah scrubland to drink at the lake.

River safaris in the late afternoon are perhaps the most idyllic way to see the wildlife at Mbuyuni. Seated low in a small aluminium boat, sipping a beer, we drifted quietly down the Rufiji, negotiating hundreds of hippos en route.

As our craft approached them, they immediately ducked their huge heads under the water, threatening to throw our vessel into the air. Crocodiles basking on the river banks in the late afternoon sun, mouths wide open, also slunk swiftly and silently into the water as soon as they spied us. Impala, waterbuck and buffalo decorated the river side while fish eagles and herons kept a watchful eye.

I expected the Selous — unchartered territory until quite recently — to feel more remote. We spotted only a couple of Land Rovers and two other boats throughout our stay, but the comfortable surroundings and the hotel-like service, somehow covered up the raw, exciting, experience of camping in the wild.

I found this instead in Ruaha National Park, a two-hour flight away to the west. The Ruaha, covers 12,950sq kms and lies in central Tanzania just west of the Iringa Highlands. Here we stayed in a small temporary private tented camp on the banks of the drying Great Ruaha River pitched in the shade of two huge acacia trees, one occasionally inhabited by a colony of baboons. The camp was simple, unassuming and peaceful: three small tents and a dining tent where copious amounts of delicious food were served, having being cooked in a beaten-up tin box on an open fire. Each tent had camp beds, candles and bucket showers exposed to the African skies.

On most days, up at dawn and back for a late brunch, we saw nobody else at all. Guided expertly by Nigel Perks, a cheery New Zealander, we explored dusky pink sand rivers, newly scorched hillsides still smouldering from a bush fire, sunken green valleys and wide scrubland plains bathed in pale yellow.

We scanned the long biscuit-coloured savannah grass for lion and cheetah, the majestic baobab for leopard and eagle, and between the scrubby *Combretum* — toothbrush trees — for kudu and eland, sable and roan antelope. We saw them all, apart from sable and roan antelope, including 17 types of eagle. Nigel, 29, who admitted to serving only banana daquiris and guacamole when guiding his first safari seven years ago, has both an impressive knowledge of the area and an infectious enthusiasm.

The first excitement was spying a female cheetah and her four cubs, and following them closely for two and a half hours, watching them play, doze and tease a jackal. Another morning we came across a giant herd of more than 300 buffalo — a streak of bitter chocolate against amber — until the animals thundered across the track ahead enveloped in a thick grey dust cloud.

One evening we spotted a badly wounded elephant, sadly drinking by the river, haunted by the inevitability of being attacked. Twenty-four hours later we watched two male lions tear the dead elephant to shreds, wrenching greedily at the fresh red meat, blood staining their faces. After they had their fill the jackals and vultures picked the carcass clean. But the most vivid memory was the sighting of my first leopard. We had been talking with an elderly couple, when suddenly Nigel shrieked excitedly: "Leopard, leopard, leopard, leopard." It was already dark and as he swung the Land Rover to one side, its lights swept over a broad tree trunk. Suddenly the windscreen was engulfed in black velvet latticed with gold. The leopard's piercing eyes stared out, stunned, only four feet in front of us — the powerful frame of the magnificent beast captured for perhaps 15 seconds in the headlamps before disappearing into the blackness.

‘The lakeside is dotted with impala, zebra and giraffe’

After ten days of dawn awakenings, however, I was ready for four days of the white beaches and turquoise waters of Zanzibar. The exotic and faintly decadent spice island, with its romantic mixture of Portuguese, African and Arabian influence is still an affordable paradise. Food and lodging, wafting with incense, is relatively cheap, although we had to endure two-hour power cuts which plunged the town into total darkness every night.

But tourism is beginning to encroach onto the island, as foreign investors have started building smart hotels, decked with antiques and silk, and the Tanzanian government has embarked on refurbishing Zanzibar's decaying heritage.

The fading and crumbling paintwork of the elegant buildings which line the narrow alleyways of Zanzibar town is now being given a facelift to show off fine filigree balconies and intricately carved wooden doors.

Out beyond the clove, nutmeg and coconut plantations, lie vast deserted sandy beaches and clear, clear blue water stretching to coral reefs beyond. At first, eyes scanning the water line, I looked for bird and water life. Then remembering, I turned over to toast the other side.

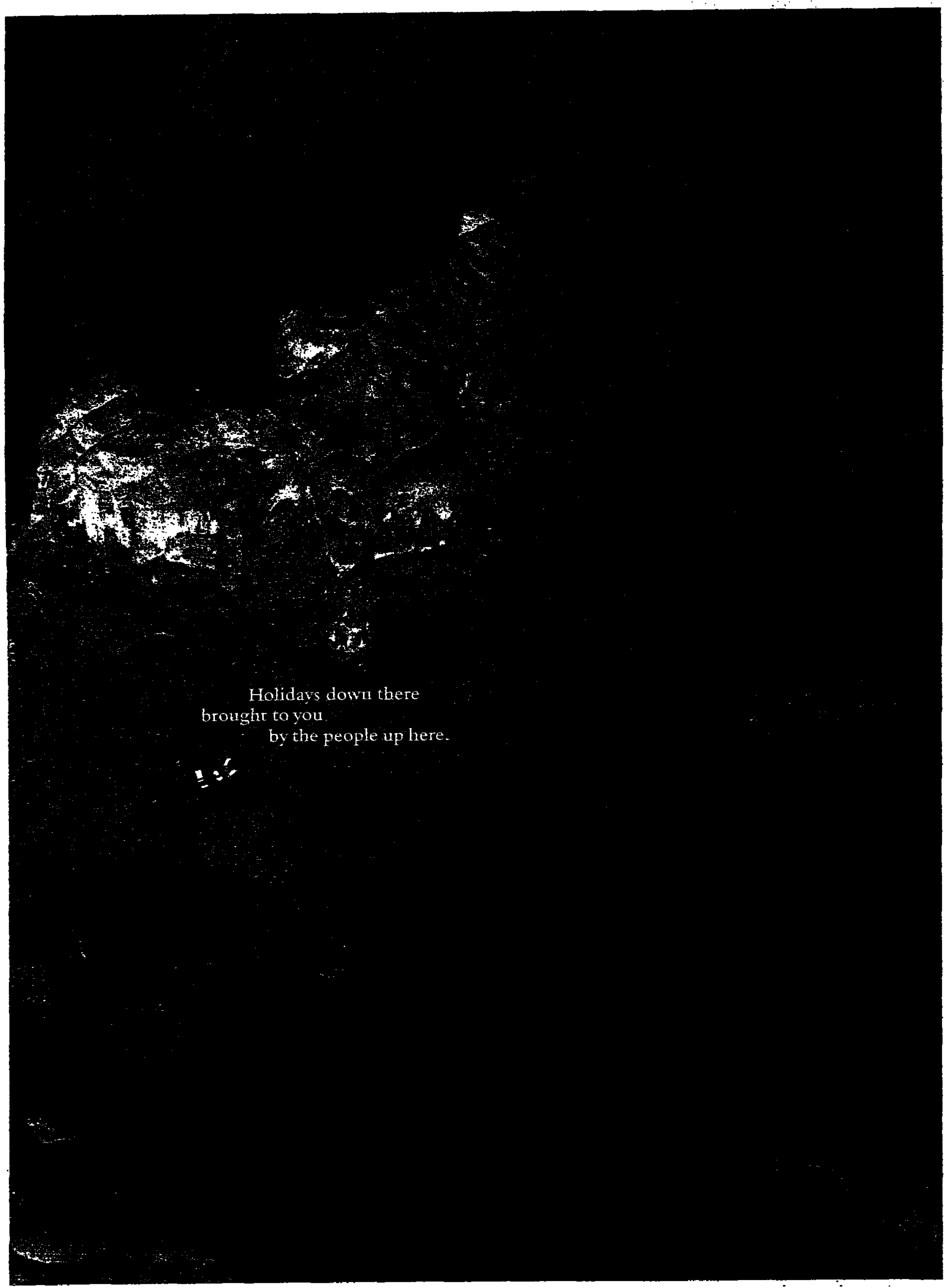
JILL SHERMAN

How to get there and what it costs

☐ Jill Sherman was a guest of Art of Travel, an agency specialising in tailor-made safaris in East and southern Africa. A 14-day safari with three days at Selous, six days at Ruaha (food and drink included and four days in Zanzibar, B&B only) costs £2,917 including all flights. Both the Selous and Ruaha are difficult to get to except by private charter, which reduces the number of tourists. The camps can be reached by a rough, bumpy road, but the journey to Selous takes nine hours and to Ruaha a further two days.

☐ Nigel Perks manages Gibbs Farm Safaris which offer private tented safaris throughout Tanzania from £200 a day (fully inclusive), depending on the number of people travelling, as well as specialised migration safaris between January and April. (£2,800 for ten days including flights).

☐ The Mbuyuni camp, owned by Selous Safari Company, offers walking safaris, game drives and boat safaris for £127 a day (fully inclusive). Both can be contacted through Art of Travel, 268 Lavender Hill, London SW11 (071-738 2038; 071-738 1893). The best time to go to the Selous and the Ruaha is in the dry season from July to October. The mornings and evenings are cool but the midday sun blistering.



Imagine, from just £391 you could be down there in Monument Valley enjoying seven nights American Fly Drive with British Airways Holidays, including Hertz car hire and scheduled flights. For our America, Florida, Worldwide, Cities or Golf brochures see your ABTA Travel Agent.

BRITISH AIRWAYS HOLIDAYS

Hertz

FAMILY BREAKS: **Jill Crawshaw** suggests action-packed ideas, from llama trekking to farm holidays

Make the most of the great outdoors

Italian Escapades' clubs in Puglia, southern Italy, provide everything for a family break

TONY STONE

There is a wide range of options for families, from traditional sun and surf breaks to learning circus skills

Adventure tents supplied with compasses, torches, treasure maps and airbeds should help to make camping packages less suburban and more like the real thing — at least for children.

Parents, meanwhile, are cosseted with ready-pitched tents, fridge-freezers and foam mattresses. French Country Camping (0923 261311), which specialises in smaller rural and coastal sites, offers these specially designed children's tents next door to the parents' tent for £3.25 a night, as well as "Off Limits" activity clubs for children at selected sites.

Free bikes have also proved popular for spins into the French countryside; 18-gear models or mountain bikes for adults and minicycles with stabilisers for youngsters, are available at 40 sites.

Canvas Holidays (0383 644000) features Beginners Tents, Children's Clubs, wildlife guides and watersports, as well as Activity Couriers. Eurocamp (0565 626262) offers similar schemes. Prices vary enormously on most of these camping holidays.

Fourteen nights for six in Vendée (from French Country Camping) including car and passenger fares costs £299 in June, rising to £841 in peak August.

Adventure on a Donkey

FOR adventurous families, La France des Village's holiday programme offers a delightful selection of ideas. (0449 737678) includes llama trekking in the Cevennes. Groups of four to ten, accompanied by a minder, explore the forgotten tracks of the Massif des Caroux, staying at mountain refuges en route. These treks are most suitable for slightly older children.

Younger ones, however, can set off with their parents on independent donkey treks in the Languedoc, which include maps, picnics and accommodation in *ferme auberges* each night. Alternatively, there are gypsy caravan holidays roaming the Loire Valley, with bikes and an accompanying saddle-horse provided.

Macho sports are on offer in Le Béarn at the foot of the Pyrenees, where families can rent *gites* (cottages), and also purchase a "Holiday Plus" leisure card which gives access to a range of watersports, climbing, canyoning, parapenting or microlighting, plus a mountain bike for each member of the family.

Donkey trek £376-£399 each per week includes all meals and cross-Channel fares. The Le Béarn holidays cost from £373-£720 a week per property (also includes ferry fares), and £54-£84 for the Leisure Card.

Enchanted Forest

LES HAUTS de Bruyères in the Sologne has the common denominators of any Centre Parc: sub-tropical glass dome with pools, tennis courts, shops and restaurants that make weather redundant, chalets in the forest and a wide range of outdoor pursuits, from roller skating to *pétanque*, in an environment where children can be active and completely safe.

The bonus here though is the Sologne itself. This strange, remote corner of the Loire covered with forests and heather-clad heathland has more deer, wild boar and hare than people, and more birds and wildfowl than all of them put together. King Francis I regularly hunted here in the 16th century — he built the majestic extravaganza, the Château de Chambord as a hunting lodge. During the 19th century it was briefly fashionable again when the new industrialists restored old châteaux and built their own status symbols. It is reasonably accessible from both Paris and the Channel ports.

A week for four people in a chalet costs £499-£909, the price including car and passenger fares for two children (under-14s free). Allow for some fairly hefty extras for the high quality facilities. Stena Sealink (0233 211010).

Alpine Activity

ALPINE summer holidays from the family specialist Sun Esprit (0252 616789) offer crèches and British nannies for babies, activity clubs for older children and enough freedom for parents to try out a variety of outdoor sports from archery and golf to white-water rafting, mountain biking and summer tobogganing. The destinations: Portes du Soleil and Chamonix at the foot of Mont-Blanc.

A week at the one-star Hotel de Les Gourmets in Morzine costs £239-£298 per adult, including ferry crossings for car and passengers, some meals with wine, and babysitting three nights each week. Under-18s are half price.

The crèche for children aged between four months and four years is available three days a week from 10am to 5pm and costs £48 per child, the same price as the "Alpies Club" in Chamonix where nannies organise picnics, treasure hunts and nature trails for children aged four to twelve, three days a week.

VFB Holidays (0242 240340) also organises family holidays in the French Alps with accommodation in hotels or apartments, French-run crèches, clubs and an "Activity Passport", for a range of 25 or so different mountain activities.

Circus philosophy

CIRCUS arts and skills are proving a big hit with both adults and children at Club Med (071-581 1161), where you can learn juggling, aerobatics, trampolining, even performing on the flying trapeze.

Despite its efforts, Club Med's straw hut, boobs-and-beads image still lingers among British holidaymakers, though most villages now use bungalow or hotel-style accommodation, and cater superbly for families, who make up 65 per cent of its clientele. There are Baby and P'Tit Clubs for four month to four-year-olds, and Mini, Cadet and Junior Clubs for children up to 16. Trained staff instruct in sports such as scuba diving, tennis, archery, judo and circus skills.

There are 49 family villages in Europe. Specially recommended for children are Don Miguel in Spain, Ibiza, Kos in Greece, Kamarina in Sicily, Metaponto in Italy, Sandpiper in Florida, Eleuthera in the Bahamas and Ixtapa in Mexico also have a wide range of family activities.

At the Don Miguel, the adult price range is from £678 to £853 per week all-inclusive; children between four months and one year pay between £159 and £203; two to fives £314-£531 and six to 11-year-olds £692. There are free holidays for children on some dates.

Helping on the Farm

SOME interesting alternatives to sun and sand holidays from Inntravel (0653 628811): apartments in farms in the Swiss mountain village of Sörenberg offer a chance to join in the working life of a traditional farm, going up to the Summer Alp, or helping to bring in the cows for milking (participation is, of course, optional).

Free rowing boats (even a smokehouse to prepare your catch) come with Inntravel's white clapboard apartments converted from a sardine dock on Tysnes Island in Norway where you can catch sea trout, cod and halibut.

For cycling and walking families, there are get-away-from-it-all holidays in Leutasch, Austria, and in the Vercors, Aquitaine, and Corbières in France.

A week at Ida's farmhouse (sleeping five) in Sörenberg, Switzerland, costs from £214-£271 for each person in a minimum party of two adults. Each extra adult costs £23, under-14s are free. These prices include ferry fares for car and passengers.

Holiday Villages

FRENCH family holiday villages are popping up all over the brochures this year. Camping specialist Eurocamp has launched a new programme, "Euro Villages" (0606 734400) of self-drive, self-catering holidays, 17 on the coast, three inland.

The villages have been designed with children in mind; there are pools and sports facilities within the complexes, and a host of other leisure activities near by. As skiers will know, the accommodation in many French holiday villages can be functional rather than luxurious: family togetherness can mean a double pull-out plus a single bed in the living room.

But the resorts are certainly smart — the Eurovillage programme includes the Villa Francia, a Pierre et Vacances Résidence at Cannes, and a large Provençal-style village at Cap Esterel, five miles from St Raphael. Prices are reasonable: 14 nights at Cape Esterel in a studio sleeping up to five people (not all in the same room) costs from £362 per party, rising to £1,616 in late July, including car and passenger crossings.

Another camping and mobile home specialist, Motours (0892 518555) has also linked up with the French Pierre et Vacances chain of holiday villages. At Moliets near Biarritz, you can have lessons in golf, archery, aerobics, mountain bike excursions, and a choice of four clubs for three to 18-year-olds, all free. A party of up to five would pay £229-£720 a week, including fares.

Stena Sealink (0233 211010) and Le Shuttle Holidays (0303 272303) have similar offers.

Italian Appeal

MORE family holiday villages — this time in Italy, from Italian Escapades (081-748 2661). Club Valtur villages are run on all-inclusive Club Med lines, with unlimited food and wine, water sports, children's clubs, and evening entertainment. They are mainly in the south of Italy in Calábria and in Puglia, an area rarely featured in British holiday firms' brochures — and guests are mainly Italian.

The two villages with the greatest concentration of English spoken are Capo Rizzuto, and Ostuni in Puglia, where seven nights costs from £561-£753 per person. Children aged between two and eleven cost £362 to £461, with one child sharing a room with two adults. The price includes flights and accommodation with full board.

Packaged Freedom

MANY OF the big tour operators provide free children's "clubs" at selected family hotels, which give parents a chance to have a break. Qualified staff organise beach games and water sports for two to four hours a day. They also supervise children's teas, and provide entertainment several nights a week.

Thomson Holidays pioneered this useful concept with its Big T and Little T Clubs for four to 11 years-olds, now available at 20 destinations.

Airtours separates its children into "Arnies", for three to seven-year-olds, and "Challengers" for eight to 12-year-olds. First Choice, in what the company describes as its "radical designer Children's Clubs", has come up with "Nippers" (for three to six-year-olds), "Surf Seekers" (seven to 11-year olds) and "Beach Hounds" (12 to 19).

Two weeks half board at Pollensa Park Hotel in Pollensa, an excellent family resort in Majorca, costs £345-£584 (adults): first child (11 years and under) £149-289; second and subsequent children up to £50 off adult price. Reductions dependent on children sharing parents' room. Thomson: 071-707 9000.

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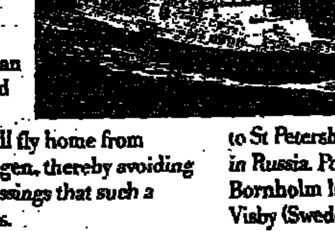

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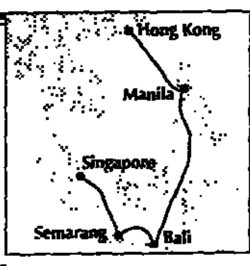

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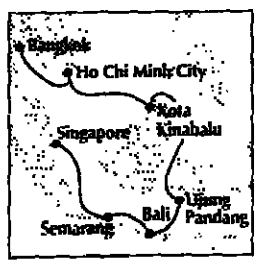

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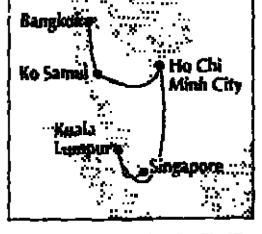

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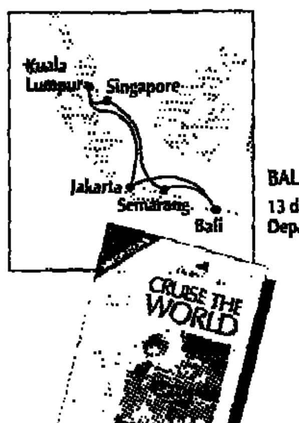

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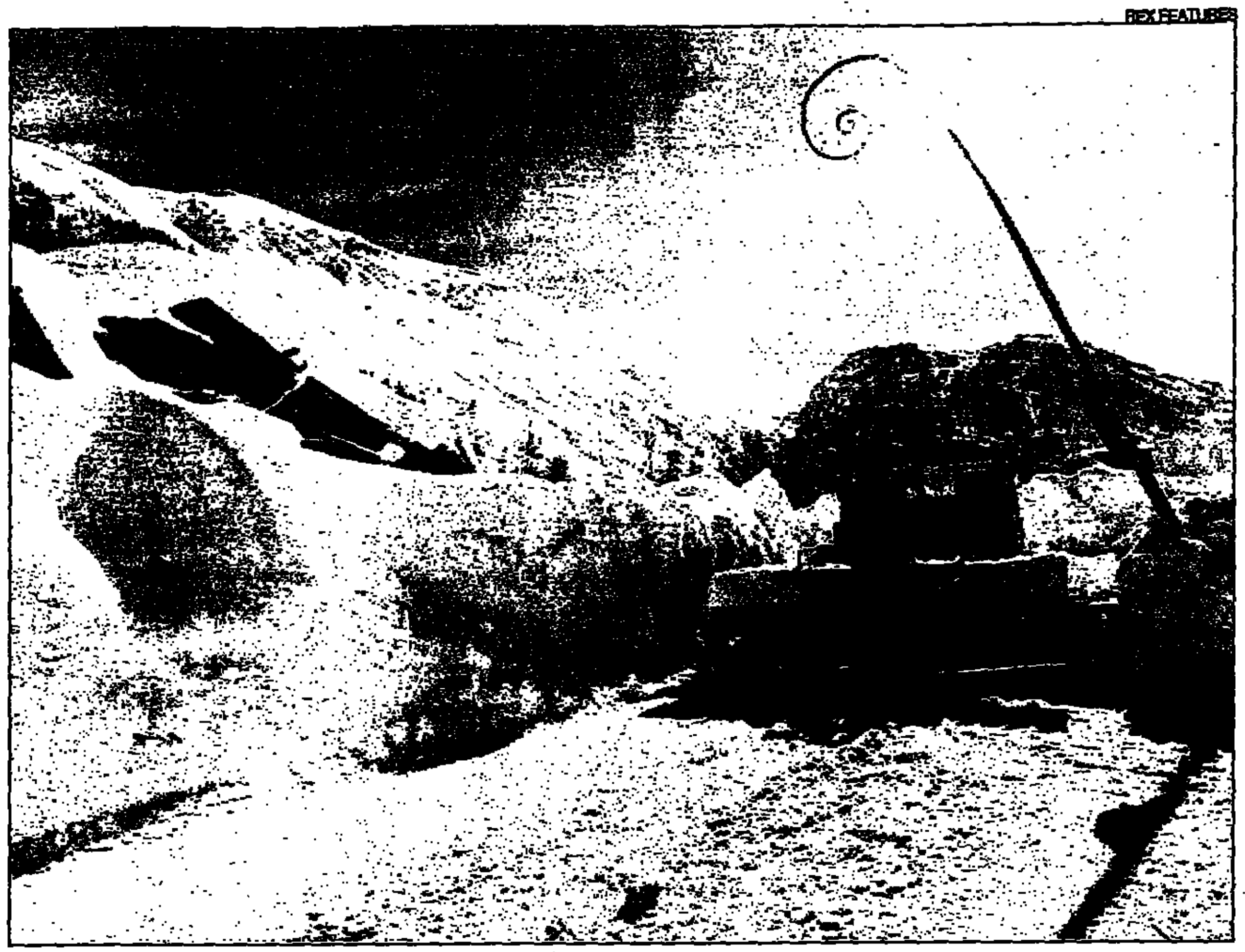
ATOL 3133

AVALANCHES: skiers must obey rules, but radios and airbags can save lives

Signals for survival on the slopes


REX FEATURES

A plough clears an avalanche and, below, rescuers use long poles in their search for people trapped in the snow

Avalanches are the main cause of death in the Alps. And this winter could set new records for fatalities. "Right through to late spring we will have problems," predicts Swiss mountain guide Alex Clapasson.

Clapasson is director of Mountain Reality in Andermatt, one of the largest off-piste skiing organisations in the Alps. He points to an inherently unstable layer of ice crystals which is close to the ground. It is this layer which caused last week's metre-thick depths of new snow to slide off steep faces, despite avalanche controls.

In order to make groomed and patrolled resort runs safe from slides originating high above the pistes, security personnel have been dropping thousands of explosive devices. These bombs set off controlled slides, preventing the snow from building up and threatening resort buildings and ski lifts.

This winter's snows have already caused deaths in a number of the most popular holiday resorts; St Anton, Lech, Chamonix and Verbier among them. On average, 150 to 200 skiers die each season in avalanches.

> ❛ Each resort has a system of avalanche warning flags or flashing lights ❜

Tourists have been killed inside chalets in recent decades, and in centuries past entire villages have been wiped out. Now steel barriers up on the peaks to stop snow slips, and routine bombing from helicopters protect inhabited areas.

The kind of avalanches causing fatalities this winter, seven at one blow on Mount Saentis in Switzerland, have been initiated by skiers.

An immense infrastructure is in place in the Alps, both for rescue and for avalanche avoidance. The Swiss Federal Institute for the Study of Snow and Avalanches has 75 reporting stations. Bulletins are issued daily across Europe on a five-point rating system according to the degree of hazard: weak, limited, significant, serious and very serious.

As infrequent visitors to the Alps, British skiers are often unaware of the degree of hazard, which is seldom apparent to the eye. Every tourist office in the Alps, however, has up-to-date reports on the local situation, and each resort has a system of warning flags or flashing lights.

Early this month I skied in one Swiss resort on the day a tourist was killed. Although avalanche danger was extreme, the warning light at the bottom of the chairlift leading up to where the fatality occurred was not on. I have also observed instances where bombs to release unstable snow have sent slides down on to pisted runs and even knocked down lift pylons.

Where is safe? Staying on the piste when high hazard is announced is only sensible. A number of toys and tools are marketed to help keep avalanche victims alive. Most useful is the avalanche transceiver, a radio which both transmits and receives a 457kHz signal. Practice with this tool is essential, because locating a buried person in stressful conditions with only the aid of beeps of variable volume coming from a tiny speaker is very difficult. The Austrian Pieps model transceiver now has a flashing light system which zeros in on a victim, aiding rescue.

The Pieps transceiver has a light system to aid rescuers

MARTIN HAYHOW

Alex Clapasson's Mountain Reality issues each off-piste skier with an ABS air balloon rucksack. These can be inflated, like airbags in a car, if the skier sees a slide in time. They have been used in the Alps for three years now, but are not available in the UK, and the Davos Avalanche Institute is undecided about their effectiveness.

Who you ski with is far more important in staying alive than what you carry. Certified mountain guides with local knowledge of the terrain you are skiing in are a minimum requirement. Only real guides, unlike ski club reps or ski-bum bargain "guides", carry the full panoply of rescue gear, and full insurance cover.

DOUG SAGER

● *The Pieps 457 model transceiver is available by mail order from Snow and Rock (0753 830868) at £160. The ABS airbag rucksack comes in three sizes, from about £750-£1,000 and can be ordered from Mountain Air, Verbier, Switzerland 01041 26 31 62 31.*

SKI TIPS

☐ The Ski Club of Great Britain (071 245 1033) offers "improve your skiing" holidays (February 11 to 18), including intermediate instruction in Flaine, France. The £595 price includes instruction, return flights Heathrow to Geneva and half board at the Hotel Anjon. Basic instruction in Soldeu, Andorra (March 12 to 19), costs £475 including private tuition, return flights Gatwick to Toulouse and half board at the Sports Hotel.

☐ NSR Travel (071 930 6666) offers seven nights half board at the Geilo Hotel, Geilo, Norway, for £640 (until February 26) and £690 (between March 5 and 26), including return flights Heathrow to Oslo. Geilo has cross country trails, ice fishing, dog-sleigh tours as well as downhill skiing. There are various discounts for children.

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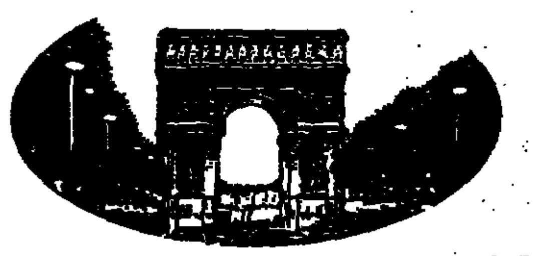

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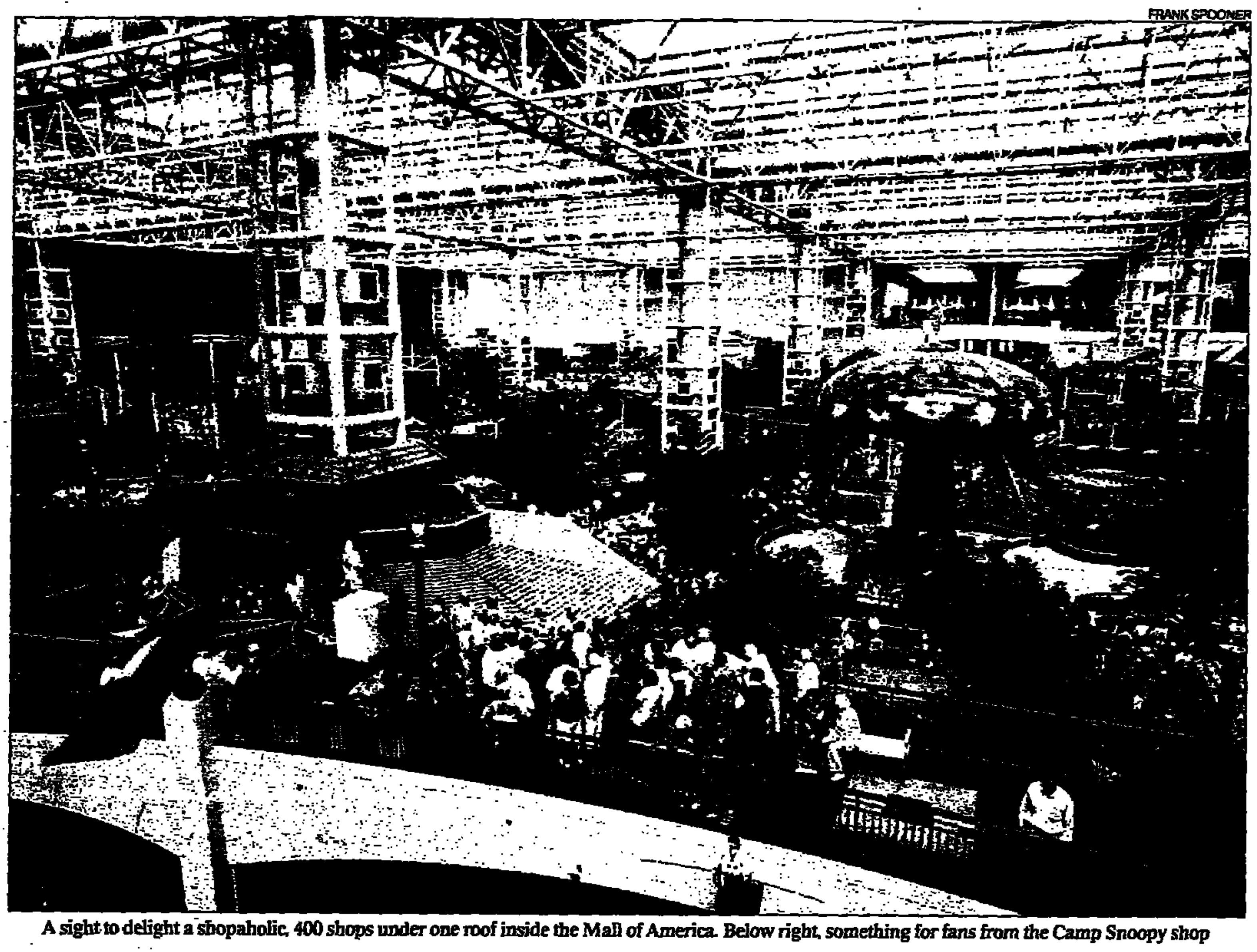
MINNEAPOLIS: In the land of excess, a vast mall to satisfy even the most dedicated shopper

Buying up America


FRANK SPOONER

A sight to delight a shopaholic, 400 shops under one roof inside the Mall of America. Below right, something for fans from the Camp Snoopy shop

Star gazing at the Warner Brothers Studios Store. Above, the Mall of America logo

Being a seasoned shopper, I travelled to Minneapolis in a spirit of some cynicism. It could not be the consumers' mecca of the travel adverts, I thought, and even if it were, who wants to shop in the 4.2 million square foot mall, with more than 400 shops? But I loved it, and there's more than the much-vaunted Mall of America to entertain the shopaholic in Minneapolis.

Your first stop, however, must be the mall (known locally as the megamall, and said to be the biggest in the world). You will feel as if you are in Mammon's own geodesic dome, but persevere; there are bargains and unusual gifts galore. In most cases, goods cost the same number of dollars in America as they do pounds at home, ie, a $6 scarf would cost £6 in Britain. With the exchange rate at about $1.56 to the £1, this makes many items good value, so be prepared for some serious spending. I was looking for the unusual rather than the cheap, but came away with items in both categories.

If you are looking for casual clothes, don't miss Gap sited at S162 (mall map reference South wing), a popular label with huge savings on the English prices): or Everyday Hero (W324), where I bought a good-quality, brushed cotton plaid shirt for $9.95 (£6.40). For something unusual, visit InVESTment, one of the mall's many stalls, or "carts" (East 3), where you'll find waistcoats from the glamorous to the wholesome, including brocade evening waistcoats for $23.95 (£15.35). Also make sure you go to Americana (N288), where you'll find clothes and accessories as well as upmarket American crafts. The most fabulous items of clothing I saw on my trip were its unisex cavalry jackets. The long jacket ($295, £190), which will make you feel like an extra from *Custer's Last Stand*, has suede fringing; bone toggles, and crossed brass swords on the lapels.

At Kitchen Collection (N312), I was seduced by The World's Only Garlic Peeler ($15.99 reduced to $12.99, £8.30), which looks like something from a medical museum and does actually fire out peeled (if slightly mauled) garlic cloves. I was tempted by a Lazy Susan with 16 filled herb and spice mills at $19.95 (£12.80). Still in home mode, Linin 'n' Things (E338) has bargains in bedding, table linens and home accessories, including elegant white and gold "damask" table mats at $3.99 (£2.55) each.

My favourite gift shops in the Mall of America were Dapy and Apples Galore. Dapy is an excellent source of the jokey and the contemporary, from a pelvis-grinding Elvis wall clock ($19, £12) to an essential for every parent of an adolescent — the battery-operated complaining mom or dad voice box ($14.99, £9.60), which delivers diatribes on a variety of topics at the touch of a button. Apples Galore (N216) sells a wide range of gifts made from, decorated with or smelling of — guess what. I couldn't resist a wreath of dried apple rings scented with cinnamon ($12.50, £8).

Don't miss All for One (N248) where everything costs a dollar; and Filene's Basement (W124) packed with clothes and homewares, where I found two heavy silk blouses for $19.99 (£12.80) each, and a pair of embroidered mules for $14.99 (£9.60). Finally, the mall is the home of Camp Snoopy, and you will be tempted to bring back beagle memorabilia. I thought the merchandise was unimaginative, but still returned with a bagful of ecstatically received goodies.

There is also almost infinite scope for shopping in town. At Gadvidae Common, on Nicollet Mall (a street, not a shopping mall), less frenetic than the megamall and with a higher proportion of stylish shops, make straight for the constant sale department on *the fourth floor* of Nieman Marcus, where you will find designer labels at affordable prices: handmade leather sandals for $45 (£29), and Ferragamo high-heeled ankle boots, which I snapped up for $125 (£80) reduced from $350. At Saks Fifth Avenue, I bought a huge multi-coloured wrap for $104.90 (£68, reduced from $175) and a long chiffon number for $41.90 (£27, reduced from $85).

The best gift shop in Gadvidae Common is The Museum Company, which stocks items from museum shops around the country. There are also many outlets for browsing in, including The Hats' Meow, where you will find silly hats, from Viking horned efforts to baseball caps with cow heads attached.

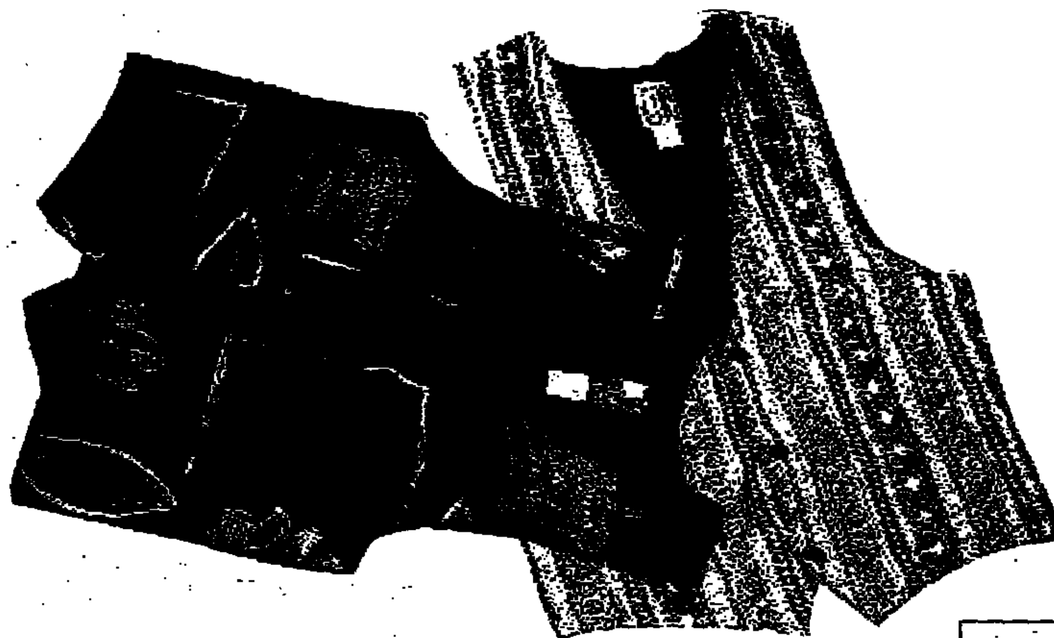
My favourite department store was Dayton's on the corner of Nicollet Mall and 7th Street — a goldmine of gifts and clothes at good prices. I bought Yves Saint Laurent velvet evening shoes $137.97 (£88, reduced from $185), the world's most comfortable walking shoes at $55.97 (£36) and, when the snow started, furry-lined boots at $29.99 (£19). All this spending necessitated the purchase of two Samsonite suitcases, last seen in England at £79.95 and £69.96 respectively, reduced to $53.98 each (£36, full price $71.97).

If you are remotely interested in food and drink, get a taxi to Byerly's at 3777 Park Center Boulevard, St Louis Park (fare about $17, £11). This fabulous 24-hour supermarket made me feel like a war baby seeing her first banana. The range was enormous. I stocked up on Mr and Mrs T's Bloody Mary Mix, the best by miles (946ml, $3.29, £2), and Holland House cocktail mixers just for fun (Daquiri/Piña Colada, 14oz, $2.09, £1.20); and flavoured coffees. Huge, well laid-out and bursting with goodies, Byerly's is a real taste of America.

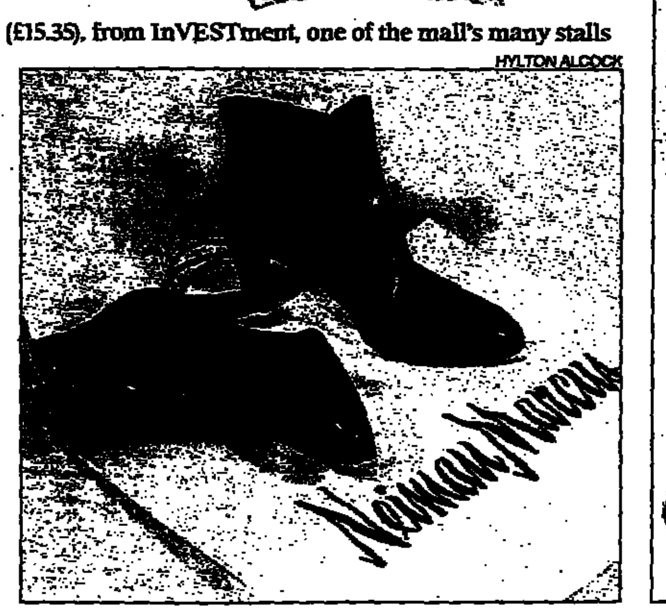
Any shopper would find heaven in Minneapolis. Stay as centrally as we did, and everything is accessible by covered overhead walkways.

STEPHANIE LEWIS

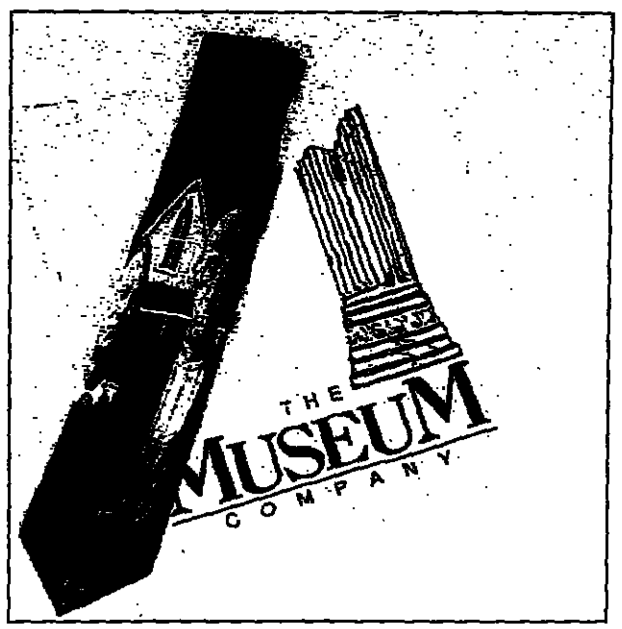
● *The author was a guest of Northwest Airlines and Radisson Hotels. Northwest Airlines (0424 224400) is offering a range of two-night breaks to Minneapolis, including free car hire, staying at the Holiday Inn Express. The author stayed at the Radisson Plaza Hotel, from $165 (plus 12.5 per cent tax) per night per room (081-875 0080).*


Brocade waistcoats, $23.95 (£15.35), from InVESTment, one of the mall's many stalls

HYLTON ALCOCK



Ferragamo ankle boots, $125 (£80), from Nieman Marcus



Tie, $17.50 (£11), available from The Museum Company

Fact file

☐ Almost everywhere takes credit cards, but if you aim to go really wild, warn your credit card company, in case, like mine, it thinks your card has been stolen and you find yourself having to shout your date of birth across a crowded restaurant for the purpose of a security check.

☐ Where possible, buy American goods, which will be cheaper. Also check out CDs and books, both of which are cheaper than in the UK. But do not buy videos — they don't work here.

☐ Beware of plug-in electrical bargains. Those that are not dual voltage are not suitable for the UK.

☐ Express buses run from the corner of Nicollet Mall and 7th Street to the Mall of America (ticket $1.50). A taxi will cost about $20 from the Radisson Plaza Hotel on 7th Street.

☐ On arrival at the mall, pick up a free map at any entrance giving details of which shops are where.

☐ Each person may bring £136 worth of goods back into Britain from the US. After that, duty is payable at 29.2 per cent of the price of each item. There is no duty on books, other than colouring books, and no VAT on the import of children's clothes. We declared everything and paid £52 in duty — a little more than one-third of what I saved on my Ferragamo boots.

☐ All prices in this article are exclusive of sales tax, which is 6.5-7 per cent in Minnesota, but is not levied on clothes (including shoes) or foodstuffs.

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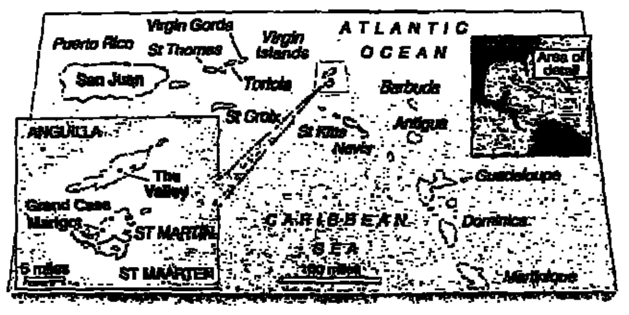
CARIBBEAN: **Ginny Dougary** plays Shirley Valentine but longs for romance

Wish you were here, darling



STUART WINDSOR

Colourful poverty and paradise: bleached timber buildings in Grand Case and taking a solitary stroll along the beach in Marigot, St Martin

The first time I went to an exotic island, an intrepid exploration of its interior led me to Tahiti's one and only, vast smouldering rubbish dump. This time round, in the Caribbean, a paradisaical beach walk led me to a sewage plant. If this is God's idea of levelling humour, I can take it. There are, after all, a few compensations.

Ten hours after leaving drab old London, I was installed on St Martin, one of the Caribbean's eastern islands, in a most pleasing suite of hotel rooms: whitewashed walls, earthenware tiles, sofas and chairs plumply upholstered in pale batik, and two private balconies from which to survey La Samanna's croissant-shaped bay, with its two kilometres of pristine white sand.

Then the therapy began. The sea was 50 paces from my balconies. I floated like a giant baby in its amniotic warmth, watching the technicolour glow of the setting sun transform the water into a blaze of tangerine silk, and darken into a metallic grey. The white sails of a solitary boat and the far-off fat man who was sharing *my* beach were eclipsed by the sudden nightfall.

Afterwards, still damp from a shower, I had a massage in my room. The tensions of the journey evaporated in a haze of patchouli and eucalypt, as I was pummelled by warm hands, and soothed by the sound of the rain beating down outside.

Everything in the Caribbean seems to vibrate with a sensual energy: the little birds that waggle flame-coloured feathers in your face as they help themselves to bowls of sugared seeds on your breakfast table; the scarlet hibiscus lewdly dangling its furry tongue; the sudden body-heat-steamy showers of rain; the intoxicating, oily smell of frangipani released by the heat; the knee-weakening throb of the local reggae music, all offset by the rhythmic ripple of white butterflies against blue skies and seas, whitewashed walls rising up from blue ceramic tiles, and the slashes of green palm trees. Ahh . . .

And here lies the rub. The Caribbean is a very sexy place. Although there are many solitary pleasures to be had, unless you are given to picking up strangers, this is not the place to holiday on your own.

St Martin, known as The Friendly Island, is the world's smallest land area to be shared by two countries: Holland and France. The Dutch side, which is the smaller of the two halves, is known as Sint Maarten, and seemed to me to be a rather tacky conglomeration of time-sharers, boutiques and chi-chi developments in salmon pink.

For most of our stay, the group I was travelling with remained on the French side, cocooned in the fabulously luxurious setting of La Samanna. This was my idea of heaven, hardly marred by the surreal sensation that I was appearing in an extended Bacardi commercial, and Fodor's only marginally less surreal advice to snorkellers: "Ignore sharks and barracudas unless they act particularly aggressive . . ."

On the third day we sailed to Cap Juluca, another super-deluxe resort, on the neighbouring island of Anguilla. The manager showed us around the gleaming white ersatz Moorish palaces, drawing our attention to a huge whirlpool bath in which several couples could frolic before informing us that this was Madonna's favourite Caribbean hideaway.

By now I was beginning to feel the need to escape from the lives of the rich and famous. Driving along the winding road to Grand Case, a village in French St Martin, I was struck by the uncomfortable conundrum that the ultimate luxury for the well-off traveller is taking a voyeuristic snapshot at another culture's "colourful" poverty.

We had lunch in one of the beachside shacks which the locals call a restaurant and ate barbecued chicken with rice and beans at a wooden table, protected from the glare of the sun by flapping sheets of blue and green cotton. The cost of the meal, with several cans of Red Stripe, was $7.

At the water's edge, the beautiful, braided boys and girls rolled around in the sand, their abandonment seeming all the more absolute because they were fully clothed. After lunch, I threw off my sarong and joined them in the water. It was one of the high-points of the holiday.

That night we celebrated Hallowe'en in one of Grand Case's open-air nighteries: the Cha-Cha-Cha. The young French population, mostly working in the island's leisure industry, had dressed up to the max. There was a dazzling array of characters: a Father Christmas sweltering in the heat, a grown man in a nappy sucking a dummy, several Gothic women and a terrifying masked creature in a boiler suit who scattered the party, wielding a chainsaw.

I had taken refuge behind the weirdest party-animal of the lot — a Fabulous Furry Freak. Only to find that he had come as himself. This old American hippy lived on his boat, and roamed round the Caribbean picking up odd jobs and writing sex-and-sailing novels for a French publisher.

We followed him down the dirt track to "the coolest joint in town" — Jimmy's — and walked straight into a scene from *Apocalypse Now*. Glazed-eyed zombies sat around the tiny bar, in a fog of dry ice, staring into their glasses. Old Rolling Stones records were spliced with rave music. But nobody danced. Bad vibes, man.

There aren't any hippies at the Bitter End Yacht Club on Virgin Gorda, but there are certainly plenty of Americans. The British Virgin Islands are stunning, rising out of the shimmering water like the ridged vertebrae of an immense, supine tyrannosaurus.

From our base at Bitter End, wooden chalets with pyramid roofs, dotted around the hills which overlook the yacht club — we made forays to neighbouring islands, including Richard Branson's Necker.

It was a lot of fun snorkelling around the reef, learning how to handle a boat, flopping on and diving off my own private pier, sailing to even more secluded beaches with a picnic, dancing under the stars to "Red Red Wine", the theme tune of Bitter End's amazingly good steel band. But by the end of the week, my Shirley Valentine act — sipping a solitary rum punch, watching the sun go down — began to pall. Next time, I'll go with my husband.

Fact file

☐ Ginny Dougary travelled as a guest of ITC Yachts of Chester (0244 329556). One week at La Samanna, St Martin, based on two people sharing, plus a week on a Swan 46 crewed yacht costs from £3,389 per person, including B&B at the hotel, full board on the yacht and flights. This is reduced to £2,356 per person if six people share a Swan 53 yacht.

☐ A similar package staying at Cap Juluca, Anguilla, plus a week on a Swan 46 yacht costs from £3,306 per person. This is reduced to £2,231 per person if six people share a Swan 53 yacht.

Forget animals, what about us?

IT IS a paradox of tourism that, like cat lovers, it is kinder to animals than it is to people. For by and large holidays have been of greater benefit to the natural world than they have been a threat.

Of course one can always turn up the cuttings about the colony of turtles distressed by night flights or the harassment of cheetahs by game park safaris, but species that are endangered have been put at risk by poaching and the destruction of habitat rather than by visitors who have come to admire them (or hunt them, see page 1).

Tourism though has not been so protective towards humans. Children are exploited by the sex trade in Asia, tribes people are displaced from their ancestral lands and even in comfortable old Europe, residents of historic cities and beautiful villages have their lives disrupted by cohorts of sightseers. The irony is that the very qualities that attract us to the animal kingdom are the ones disregarded when it comes to our own species.

PETER HUGHES

In the world of wildlife, tourism rejoices in the whole fantastic variety of nature and is an important force in maintaining it. The reason we are so dependent on the natural world for spiritual sustenance is because flowers are not dressed by department stores, animals don't carry advertising and birds don't sing hits.

I am still baffled by the mentality that seems to require the first thing for marauding visitors to do in any new destination is to fit it out with exactly the same trappings of the high street they have just left at home.

Perhaps this is behaviour we are now growing out of and the new generation of long-haul travellers no longer feels the same urge to take its own beer, food and entertainers on holiday.

No, the new generation of tourists is more sophisticated than that. They are not into "tea like mother made" but cocktails spiked with paper umbrellas: they are into "all-inclusives". These are the little holiday nation states which are opening up, particularly in the Caribbean where they are now the fastest selling holiday from this country.

Their attraction is that they are almost wholly independent from whatever country in which they are found. They have their own restaurants, bars, entertainment and sports. Not only is there no need to stray out of these shimmering enclaves into the unknown hinterland of the real world outside, but there is no incentive either because "all inclusive" relates to the price. Everything has been paid for up-front so the holiday is spent under the delicious illusion that nothing is being paid for at all.

They are immensely popular, well run and good value but they have no more to do with travel than the bacon and egg cafés and English pubs of Loret de Mar.

And what is all inclusive for the visitor may be all exclusive for the locals. Unless they work on the property they will probably not be allowed in and they may even have difficulty in reaching the beach. This is tourism the alienator, not the bringer together.

And what will happen to these places, far in the future, when the fad has run its course, like the obsolete hotels on the Spanish costas which are now too plain to be popular, too old to renovate and too expensive to demolish? Anywhere else, outworn industrial plant gets a new lease of life through tourism. It is called industrial archaeology and opened as a visitor attraction.

Even old coal mines are now places to go on holiday. That's the one thing you can't do with a worn out hotel.

● *The author is a former editor of* Wish You Were Here . . . ?

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 27

MIGMA

(b) A mixture of solid and molten rock, from the Greek *migma* a mixture, *me(i)gnúnai* to mix. "Between these *extremes is a concept of a pore* fluid, or migma, generated by the differential melting or partial fusion of the root portions of mountains."

MASDEU

(a) A sweet firm-bodied wine of a dark colour and *mellow flavour produced at a* vineyard in the South of France. C. Redding, *A History of Modern Wines*, 1851: "This wine is not a factitious French port from the harbour of Cette. . . It is a genuine *production called Masdeu*, from the vineyard which produces it, between Perpignan and Collioure."

NORK

A woman's breast, usually plural. Oz slang, an *eponymous reference to* Norco Co-operative Ltd, a butter manufacturer in New South Wales.

HAMARTIA

(c) The fault or error which entails the destruction of the tragic hero (with particular reference to Aristotle's *Poetics*). From the Greek *hamartia* fault, failure, guilt. "But with *him* [sc. Macbeth] the hamartia, the primal defect, is the taint of ambition."

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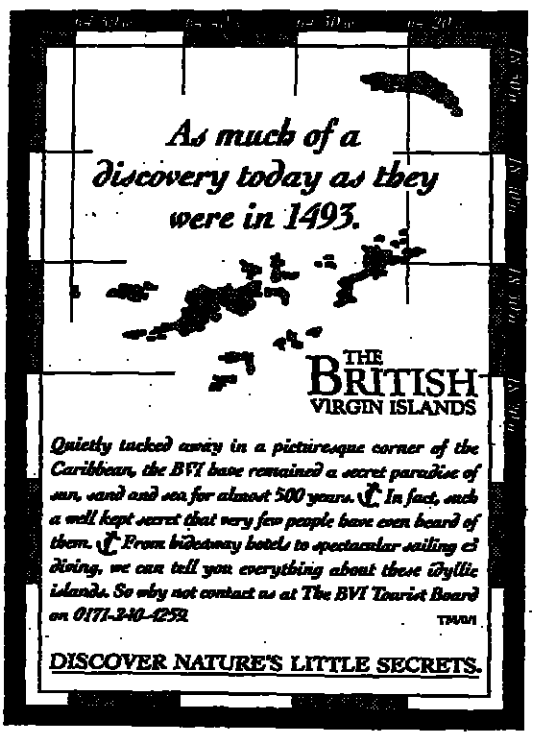
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HEBRIDEAN WINTER CRUISE: See the isles in dramatic guise from the warmth of a floating hotel

An island fling on a wee dram

Kay and Peter Orr relax on the *Hebridean Princess*

Skye, in all its winter glory, seen from the *Hebridean Princess*. "Fabulous scenery unrolling its marvels outside the windows"

It was *snowing* when we reached Oban. Surely this was March hare's madness: who, of sound *mind*, would embark on a Hebridean cruise while winter remained? "Wet sheep and dripping rhododendrons" was Ian Fleming's terse verdict on the region; we could be in for even worse, I thought grimly, watching waves whipped up to a ferocity seldom seen in Oban's harbour.

Spirits lifted when we boarded the *Hebridean Princess*. We entered another world, *a place of immediately* endearing elegance and charm, designed for comfort and enjoyment. A large brick fireplace dominates the Tiree Lounge, where we were soothed by cucumber and smoked salmon sandwiches, scones, jams and cream. Tasteful classical *music* on tape, as everyone knows, means Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*: appropriately enough, "Winter" *was playing*, but a quick glance outside confirmed that it had stopped snowing.

Passengers were invited for drinks as the ship cast off that *evening. Expectations rose*, but so did the wind, and the *Hebridean Princess* remained firmly tethered to Oban's North Pier while we drank *Pimms. Captain David Mattingly* explained: "Our policy is not to expose people to unnecessary discomfort, and we are able to adapt the *itinerary so that never, apart* from the voyage to St Kilda, will anyone have to endure more than an hour or so of unpleasantness."

On our first evening, safe in harbour, everyone was able to enjoy dinner. Temptations to over-indulge in food and drink *were hard to resist. In the* course of our voyaging, we were offered fresh asparagus, scallops, Dover sole, Hebridean *lobster, champagne and* strawberry sorbet, and baked turbot with crab.

Our cabin was warmly welcoming: bright floral bed*spreads, with matching* drapes festooning the bedhead in regal fashion, colour television, a good-sized bathroom and a private balcony where we *could sit* and watch the Western Isles slide by.

We slept deeply and hopefully that first night. Next morning *brought noises sig*nalling imminent departure. It took time for this to register, as we were indulging ourselves from the breakfast menu: *freshly squeezed orange* juice and pink grapefruit, though I was not so sure about porridge with a wee dram at that time of day. Later, the necessary ritu*als* of boat-drill convinced us that we *really* were at *sea*.

As old hands, we thought we knew the Hebrides, but never had we seen them in this dramatic guise: picturesque mountains covered by *snow*, the sea sparkling in clear light. Lochs came and went as this fabulous scenery unrolled its marvels outside the windows: Linnhe, Sunart, Nevis, Torridon and Scavaig, a litany of varied beauties.

Activities were numerous: shore excursions in the Hardy tenders to remote lochside villages such as Inverey, Shieldaig and Salen, breezy *rides on the speedboat*, an unforgettable coach tour after we had tied up at Kyle of Lochalsh, taking us past Eilean Donan Castle and over *Mam Rattachan Pass, where* snow lay deep.

Our appreciation *was* mightily enhanced by a commentary from our guide, Ian Condie, formerly a lecturer in geography, who *pointed out buzzards and* curlew along the way, evoked the eventful history of those magical islands, and taught me to *distinguish shag from* cormorant.

Enjoying yet another wee dram in the captain's cabin, I asked what was the fascina*tion* of the Hebrides. "It's an area which has remained unchanged: it has remoteness, grandeur. It's sparsely popu*lated; communications* are *sometimes* difficult, even in high summer the weather is unpredictable. There is still quite a harsh life for the *inhabitants* — in a word, it's different," he said.

During the cruise, passengers enjoyed a standing invitation to *visit the bridge, and the* ship's library of books and videos was equal to all reasonable demands.

At ports of call without berthing facilities, the ship's small boats enable landing. It was *still too early in the season to* describe Portree as bustling, but we found activity enough when we landed on a Saturday morning. An enterprising publican stood outside his pub soliciting customers as we landlubbed our way into town.

Sunsets in the Hebrides *provide spectacular* viewing. Each evening, our ship made for sheltered anchorage, where dinner could be served *without spilling* a *drop of soup*: just as well for those who had donned formal dress for the Captain's Dinner, or the *Hebridean Princess* Evening at the *end of our journey*, an occasion that brought out the kilts. While dinner-jackets were not obligatory for dinner, most passengers were *quite* keen *on dressing* up for the occasion.

"Since we can't give them tropical beaches or guaranteed *sunshine*, we *must* give them value for money, and give them pleasure," Captain Mattingly said. Hebridean cruises are not exactly cheap *and most passengers tend to* be older and well-heeled. The captain insisted that it was not necessary to be young and *athletic to cope with cruising*. He had tales about octogenarians leaping happily in and out of the ship's small boats, and I noticed that one of our elderly fellow-passengers was first to sign up for a speedboat trip.

By happy accident — or divine intervention — our *last* full day was the best. *The sun appeared as we left anchorage* at Isle Ornsay, and stayed with us all day. Just before we nosed into the Sound of Mull for the homeward leg, we saw off the starboard bow the snow-capped mountains of Mull and, farther away, hump-backed Coll. Aft of us lay *the small islands, which* we had circled during the day — Muck, Canna, Rum and Eigg — and behind them the great *mass* of *Skye's* Cuillin Hills.

Our last evening together, to my relief, threatened nothing as hearty as Scottish country *dancing: we sang a few of the* old songs, closing with "Auld Lang Syne", drank a last wee dram, and retired to bed.

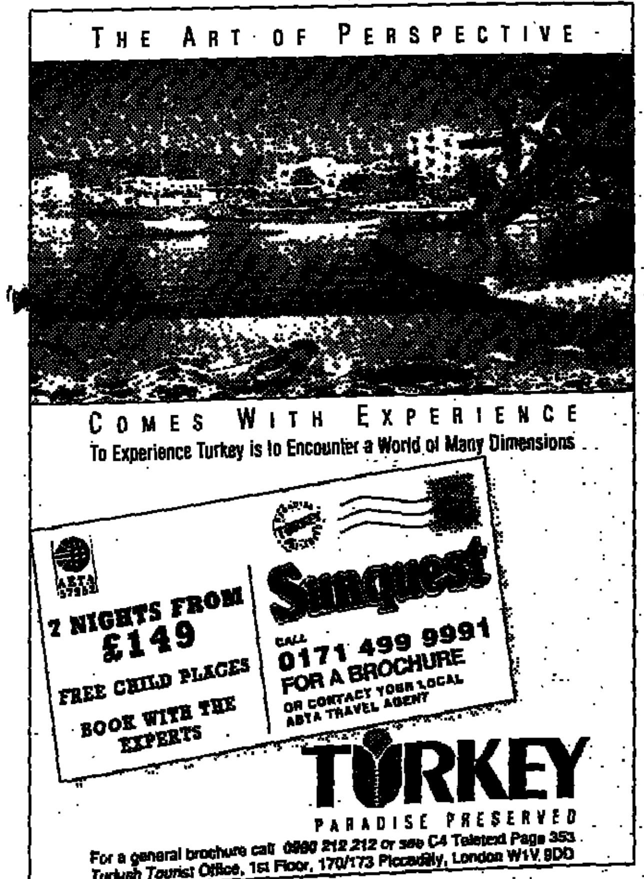
"Will ye *no come* back again?" they ask. Well, yes, just as soon as my number comes up in the lottery.

PETER ORR

Cruises, cabins and what they cost

☐ Peter Orr and his wife travelled as guests of Hebridean Island Cruises Ltd, Acorn Park, Skipton, North Yorkshire. BD23 2UE (0756 701338, fax 0756 701455). Cruises operate from March to November 1, costing from £625 *for six nights* in *a single cabin on a lower deck*, to £8,165 per person in the luxurious Arran Suite for the 14-night "Cruise of the Year". All meals and excursions are included in the fare.

☐ New *cruises for this year include seven-nights from* Oban to Inverness calling at the Orkney Islands and seven or eight-night cruises around southwest Ireland calling at Dublin. Other cruises focus on: the natural world with optional walking *opportunities*: castles *and gardens of Scotland*; and the hidden isles of the Hebrides.



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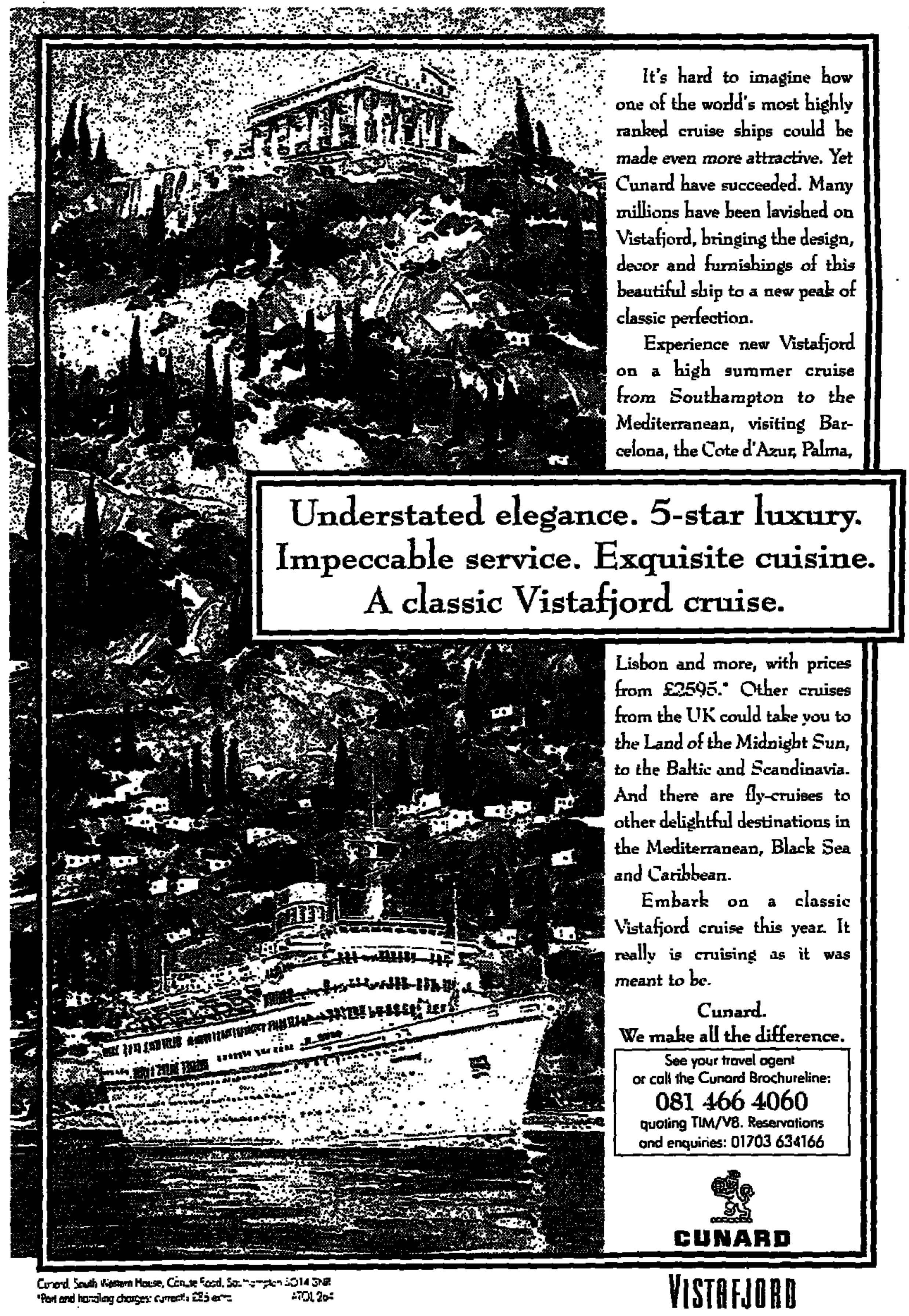

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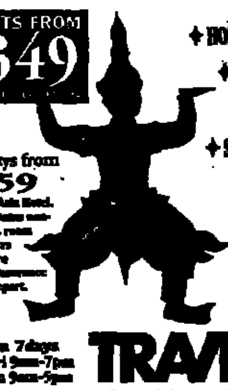

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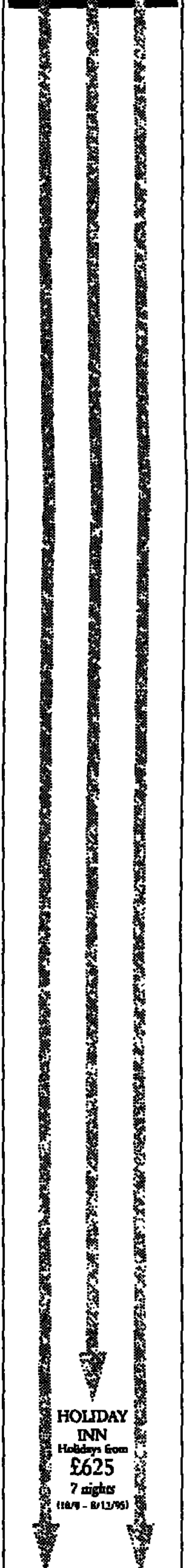

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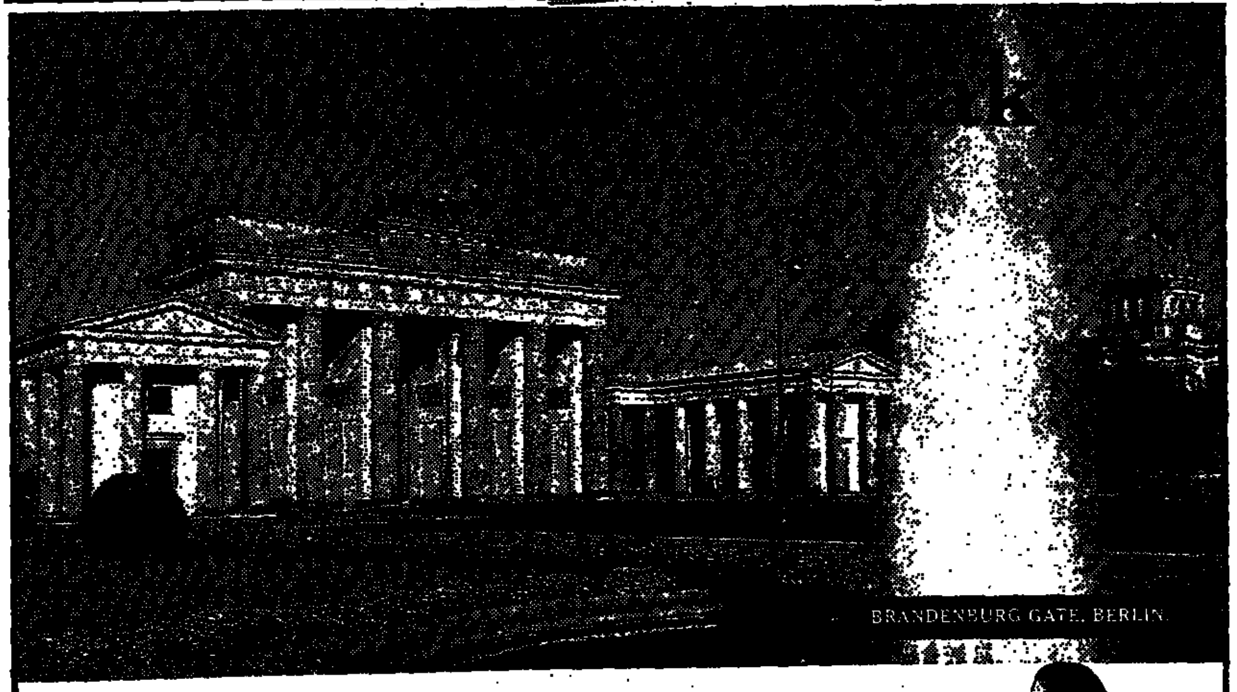

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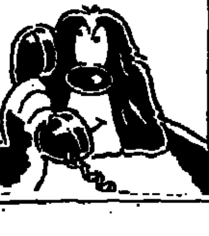

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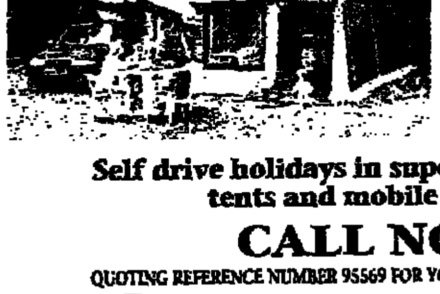

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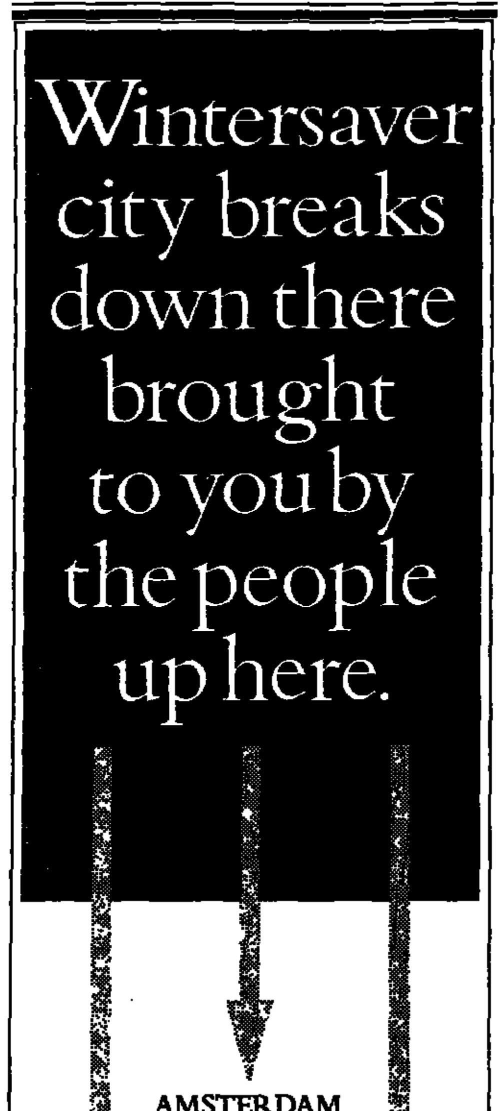

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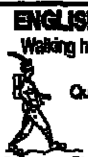

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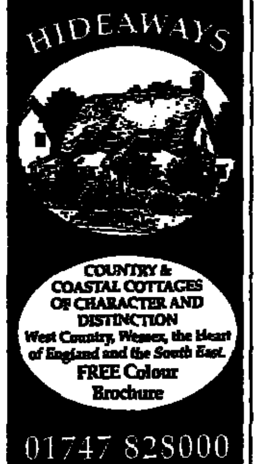

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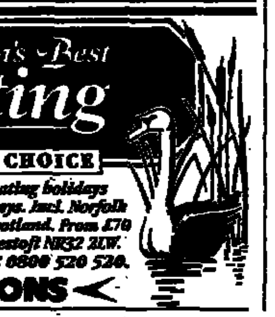

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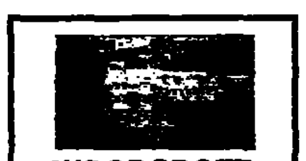

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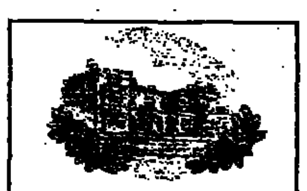

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GAMES

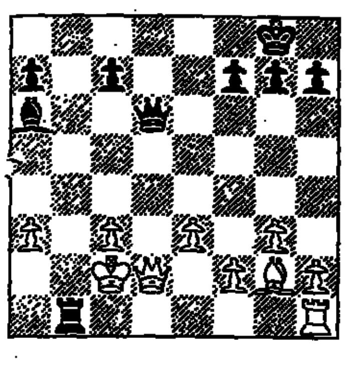
CHESS

by Raymond Keene

THERE were 199 entries for the Christmas competition, of which 45 were fully correct. Last week I gave the answers to the first three puzzles as well as the winners' names. This week I give the answers to the final three positions.

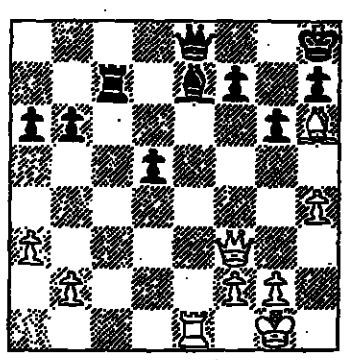
All six positions featured the players who had been making the news in 1994, ranging from the world champion himself, Garry Kasparov, via the Pentium Genius computer program which sensationally defeated him in London, to Britain's 11-year-old chess prodigy, Luke McShane, who confirmed his promise by performing well at Hastings over the turn of the year.

Position 4
Pentium Genius-Anand, London



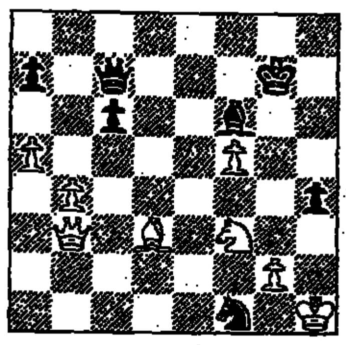
An easy one: Black wins the white queen with 1 . . . Rb2+

Postion 5
Kamsky-Short, Linares



White brings about a speedy checkmate with 1 Qf6+

Position 6
Berg-McShane, Richmond

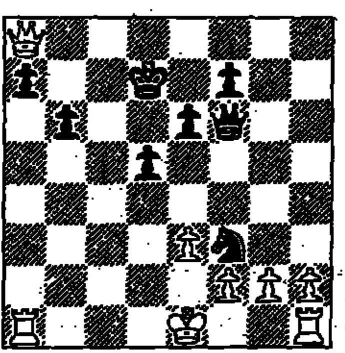


By sacrificing the queen with 1 . . . Qh2+, Black also delivers an imminent checkmate.

As many readers will know, Harry Golombek OBE, the *Times* chess correspondent from 1945 to 1985, died two weeks ago. He was particularly proud of the following game, involving a spectacular series of sacrifices, culminating in Black's 20th move to secure a draw by perpetual check.

White: Geller; Black: Golombek
Budapest, 1952
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1	d4	Nf6	2	c4	e6
3	Nc3	Bb4	4	e3	c5
5	a3	cxd4	6	axb4	dxc3
7	Nf3	cxb2	8	Bxb2	d5
9	c5	b6	10	Bb5+	Bd7
11	Bxd7+	Nbxd7	12	Qc2	Nc6
13	Bxg7	Nxb4	14	Qb1	Rg8
15	c6	Nxc6	16	Qxh7	Nf6
17	Bxf6	Qxf6	18	Qxg8+	Kd7
19	Ne5+	Nxe5	20	Qxa8	Nf3+



21 gxf3 Qxa1+ 22 Ke2 Qb2+; draw agreed.

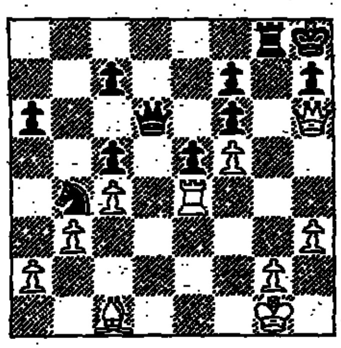
By Raymond Keene

This position and those for the forthcoming week are taken from the book *John Nunn's Best Games*, published by B. T. Batsford. This position is from the game Nunn - Portisch, Reykjavik 1988. Can you spot White's brilliant mating manoeuvre?

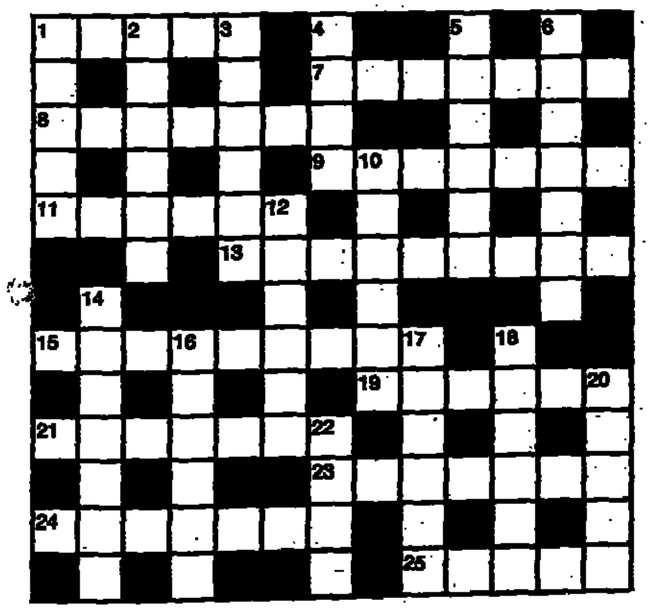
Send your answers on a postcard to *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The first three correct answers drawn on Thursday will win a British Chess Magazine publication. The answer will be published next Saturday.

Last week's solution: 1 Nf7+

Last week's winners: H G Williams, Godalming, Surrey; G. Tebble, Horstead, Norfolk; D J Carpenter, Sutton Coldfield, W Midlands.



TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 375

ACROSS
1 Con trick victims (5)
7 Bestially cruel (7)
8 Brought into conformity (with others) (7)
9 Lacking depth (7)
11 Bahama capital (6)
13 Selfish (9)
15 People from Manila (9)
19 Short and enigmatic (6)
21 Intuitive empathy (7)
23 Properly positioned (2,5)
24 Go ahead (7)
25 Bumpkin (5)

DOWN
1 Exhaust; outflow pipe (5)
2 Ordained minister (6)
3 Ice-cream and nut sweet (6)
4 Teases; children (4)
5 Pangs of conscience (6)
6 Unit of heat, energy value of food (7)
10 Sausage in bun (3,3)
12 Even less pretty (6)
14 Competitiveness (7)
16 (Force of) collision (6)
17 Irritable; fashionable; brisk (6)
18 Go on board (6)
20 Fish basket; lobster trap (5)
22 Neat; odds-and-ends holder (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 374

ACROSS: 1 Acerbic 5 Media 8 Alien 9 Regimen 10 See the sights 12 Livery 14 Patchy 17 Fly on the wall 21 Routine 22 Ad lib 23 Gleam 24 Tetanus

DOWN: 1 Adam's ale 2 Exile 3 Bencher 4 Cerise 5 Magog 6 Demotic 7 Anne 11 Syllabus 13 Vulture 15 Abeyant 16 Attest 18 Opium 19 All in 20 Brig

CROSSWORD BOOKS : The Times Concise Crosswords: (Books 1 & 2 £5.99 each), Books 3,4,5,6 & NEW Book 7 £4.50 each. The Times Jumbo Crosswords: (Books 1 & 2 £5.99 each, Concise Book £5.99). The Times Crosswords : (Books 1 to 13 £4.99 each), Books 14 to 18 & NEW Book 19 £4.50 each. The Sunday Times Crosswords — (Book 1 £4.99), Books 10,11,12 & NEW Book 13 £4.50 each. The Sunday Times Concise: Books 1,2,3 £4.50 each. Except the items in brackets, software available for all titles for IBM PCs and Acorn Archimedes computers — Price £14.95 each — also The Times Computer Crosswords Vols 1 to 6, The Sunday Times Vols 1 to 6 and The Times Jubilee Edition. Prices inc p&p (UK). Send cheques with order payable to *Akom Ltd*, 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW. Return delivery. Tel 081-852 4575 (24 hrs). No credit cards.

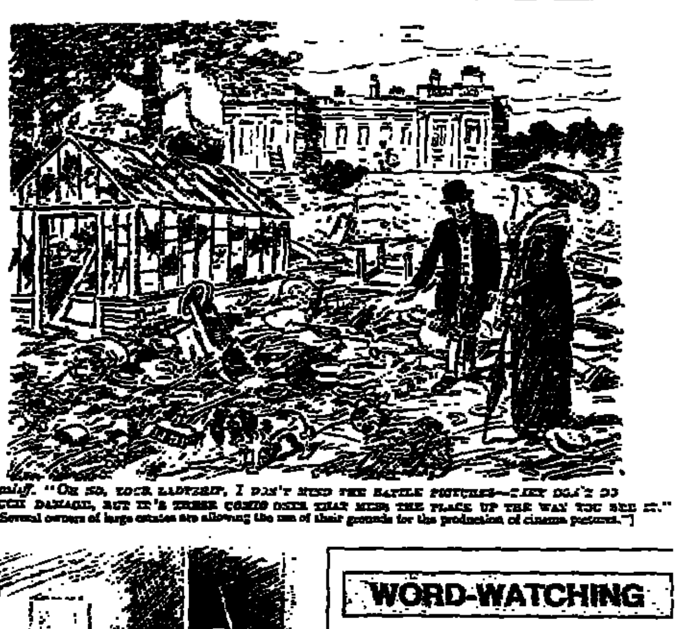
PUNCHLINE

READERS are invited to write an amusing caption for the cartoon on the right. The cartoon, from the Punch library, includes the contemporary caption.

The cartoon will be printed again next week on the Games page with a caption selected from those submitted.

Caption suggestions, on a postcard please, should be addressed to: Cartoon caption 41, Weekend Games Page, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The editor's decision is final.

The closing date for entries is Wednesday, January 25.



Bailiff. "OH NO, YOUR LADYSHIP, I DON'T MIND THE BATTLE PICTURES—THEY DON'T DO MUCH DAMAGE, BUT IT'S THESE COMIC ONES THAT MESS THE PLACE UP THE WAY YOU SEE IT." ["Several owners of large estates are allowing the use of their grounds for the production of cinema pictures."]

"Draught-proof double glazing is all very well, but every time you open the front door, I get sucked up the chimney"

The winning caption for last week's cartoon (above) was submitted by Mr R. Skinner, of South Woodford, London

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

MIGMA
a. Urine
b. Solid and molten rock
c. A stepmother

MASDEU
a. A French wine
b. A bishop's battle-mace
c. A water meadow

NORK
a. A non-worker
b. To whinge
c. A woman's breast

HAMARTIA
a. A fine cloth
b. Ancient Greek breastplate
c. Tragic error

Answers on page 22

COMPUTER GAMES

JUST under a month ago many of you unwrapped new computer games for Christmas. Now is your chance to put the last few weeks of game mastery to good use by entering our latest competition, Cyberspace Twelve. Half a dozen winners will each receive no fewer than a dozen games from Empire Interactive.

The first three Empire titles are on CD-Rom. "Dawn Patrol — The First Air War" is a First World War dogfight simulation which will have you grabbing for your goggles and chocks. The game features more than 15 period aircraft (Sopwith Camel, SPAD 7 and the Red Baron's Fokker Triplane among them) and around 150 missions to fly, including historic encounters with Baron Von Richthofen, Voss, Ball, Immelmann and Richenbacher.

In addition to the gaming action, "Dawn Patrol" includes a detailed multimedia experience based on the actualities of the 1914-1918 war. This has plenty of historical newspaper clippings and original footage in sufficient detail to please any aficionado of the era.

Switching wars, "Campaign II" is the long-awaited sequel to Empire's best-selling Second World War simulation, "Campaign". Here you get to choose which side you want to be and prepare for battle from a vast array of war hardware. You can also choose your rank, from tank driver to field marshal.

"Dreamweb" is a precision-graphic sci-fi adventure which oozes black mood. The dreamweb of the title is a mystical energy controlling good and evil and it's your job to find, then knock off, six others whose intentions with the web are not honourable. The game boasts meticulously detailed locations, and the sound effects and soundtrack add ample ambience.

The remaining nine games are served up in three titles, each on PC floppy discs. "Award Winners Gold" encompasses the "Sensible Soccer" football game, early space favourite "Elite" and the highly colourful platform game, "Zool". "Award Winners Platinum" takes the gaming a notch further with another three titles including Sid Meier's exemplary gaming experience, "Civilisation".

Finally, "Combat Classics Two" has you back in battle fatigues for more combat scenarios in three different war simulation games.

To enter Cyberspace Twelve you are asked to review any new game in your collection, good or bad. The judges prefer maverick and humorous approaches to bland appraisals. Entries must be legible and between 150 and 350 words. Please give the full title of your selection, the format on which you have played and the publisher, together with your name, address and telephone number. It is important that you include all the above details. Clearly mark your entry: Cyberspace Twelve, Computer Games, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The closing date for the competition is midnight on Tuesday February 7, and the judges will not enter into additional correspondence.

The winner of our computer limerick competition is B. J. Dungate of Brighton.

TIM WAPSHOTT

BRIDGE

by Robert Sheehan

HERE is the answer to the last of the Christmas competition questions. You were asked what the *chance was of picking up a hand in* which there is no card higher than a seven. Was it approximately (a) 17,000 to one; (b) a quarter of a million to one; (c) Eight million to *one. (5 marks)*

You may know that the odds against a Yarborough (no card higher than a nine) are 1,827 to 1. The answer to the competition variant is a quarter of a million to one against, hereinafter to be *called a "Cohen". Howard Cohen is* the first person I have ever heard of to have reported holding the hand. Answer (b) scored 5 points, all others 0. For those who are interested in how to work out such trivia, and many more useful *probabilities, I recommend* Kelsey and Glauert's *Bridge Odds for Practical Players.*

The method of calculating the odds of Cohens and the like is to calculate how many ways there are of dealing that particular hand, *compared with the number of ways* of dealing all possible hands. To deal a Cohen you must select 13 cards from the 24 cards ranked seven or below. The complete universe of hands is the number of ways of selecting 13 cards from 52, *and that turns out to be about a* quarter of a million times as many as 13 from 24.

For completeness, here are my calculations of the odds of all the *really* bad hands:

No card higher than	Odds to 1
9	1,827
8	16,958
7	254,397
6	8.2m
5	1.1bn

This is a hand from Kelsey and Glauert's book:

♠K1065
♥K3
♦A73
♣A764

N
W E
S

♠AQ843
♥A6
♦K8
♣KQ102

Contract: 6♠. Lead: ♦J

You are in Six Spades against the lead of the jack of diamonds. How should you play after winning the king of diamonds?

In the spade suit you can pick up four to the jack in either hand, but you have to commit yourself on the first round of the suit — if East holds the four you must start with a spade to the king, and if West holds four you have to lay down the ace first. In the club suit you can pick up Jxxx with East, but if West has this holding you have to lose a club trick.

So the first step in the analysis is to assume the worst, that West has the club length. If that is the case, he is more likely to be short in spades, so at trick two you lead a *low spade to the king. When West* shows out you can lead twice through East's spades to pick up the suit without loss. This is the full deal:

♠K1065
♥K3
♦A73
♣A764

♠-	N	♠J972
♥Q10754	W E	♥J982
♦J1092	S	♦Q654
♣J985		♣3

♠AQ843
♥A6
♦K8
♣KQ102

Of course if West turns up with four spades, you will lose a trump trick by this line of play. However, in that case, in any four-one club break East is more likely to hold the four.

Have you ever been involved in a deal where everyone gets a complete suit? Kelsey and Glauert *demonstrate that the odds of that* occurring genuinely is approximately 2 followed by 27 zeroes to 1 against. They say that if every adult in the world were to play bridge every waking moment for ten million years, it would still be ten *million to one against it happening.* So don't bother writing to *The Times* if it happens to you — while I have anything to do with it it won't get published. Just look round the table and see who is smirking — he was the one who switched in the "cooler" (gambling argot for a rigged deck).

Best of the Christmas competition remarks was one attributed to Rixi Markus, encouraging a new partner in an Individual tournament — "No signals. I will know your distribution better than you do" (A. Glaskin). She meant it. Finally a good hurry-up exhortation — "Play it while you're young" (D. Baigler).

The Macallan Pairs

The Macallan International Bridge Pairs Championship (in association with *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*) is being played next week on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday (Jan 25-27), at the White House Hotel, Albany Street, Regent's Park, London. The sixteen pairs include Omar Sharif, playing with Zia Mahmood, and the world's two top-ranked pairs — Hamman and Wolff, and Meckstroth and Rodwell. Great *Britain will be represented* by former winners Tony Forrester and Andrew Robson, along with Graham Kirby and John Armstrong. *The Sunday Times* bridge correspondent Boris Schapiro is playing with Irving Gordon.

Tickets and details are available from the White House Hotel (071-387 1200; fax 071-388 0091). Some tickets may be available at the door.

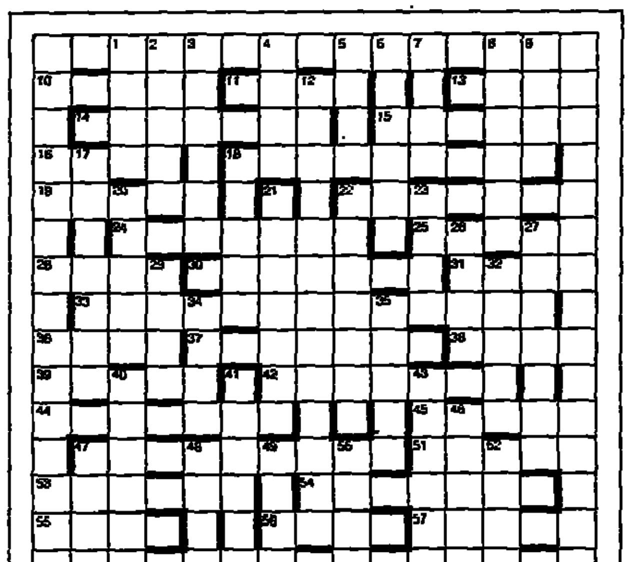
THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

No. 3289: Prosaic? by Le Gallois

The periphery of the grid consists of a quotation (starting at 4dn), the source of which is one of the unclued lights, all of which are related. Fifteen clues contain an *extraneous word the first letters of* which, in sequence, should give the solver a significant pointer. Of the remaining clues, one half have a misprint in the definition section, and in the other half subsidiary indications lead to an answer from which one extraneous letter *must be omitted before entry in the grid.* In each case (misprints and extraneous letters respectively in sequence) a further piece of information is afforded. Chambers 1993 is recommended but does not give 13ac, 7dn (except in adjectival form) or 23dn though the latter appears in the *definition of another word.*

ACROSS
10. Secret service in shelter of monstrous home (5)
11. One backward tribesman . . . (4)
13. . . . and one Australian so backward he was crushed to death (4)
14. Relied on ill-will (7)
15. Amber — possibly to lie about internal operation (6)
16. *Curie's old fit of contrariness* (4)
18. Megapode race, one authorised by the French (9)
19. Ned's time is taken by the head (5)
22. Maid to spoil in dim surroundings (7)
24. Upper crust footballer with obsession (7)
25. Garden's symbolic sands (5)
28. Lift over from middle of pen (4)
30. Internal organ can go in a lifetime of quinsy (7)
31. Single study on eastern concept (4)
33. See preamble (3 words) (13)
36. New side of personality running English brood (4)
37. A boy a great deal dejected (7)
38. Unfix to chop the little judge (4)
39. In old Albania, the boat of an Oxford crew? (5)
42. Badgers mound in English hills (7)
44. Unconcealed tartness in female battleaxe (7)
45. Against keeping goddess in house of straw (5)
47. See preamble (2 words) (9)
51. Celestial tear for our safe passage (4)
53. See six down
54. *Throttled rocky* (7)
55. Bet in Oman — the reverse of teaching (4)
56. Seem to touch end of line (4)
57. Dance around lodge with wooden barriers (5)

DOWN
1. Overshot corner, in the middle of the road (4)
2. Not ready, West's mostly missing opening (5)
3. Get rid of waste vessels anchored in *river* (6)
4. Not a cry of joy to reserve (4)
5. Bull-ring with Dartford mud? Further North (4)
6. and 53 across See preamble (2 words) (12)
7. Writer most of upper class accepted (4)
8. Having eight merry but missing Jack (6)R
9. Turkish currency symbolises rising growth (4)
12. See preamble (2 words) (13)
17. Rustic banality of rites on earth (7)
18. Enter refinery regularly for alloy (5)
20. Separated old couple in Oxford blue (5)
21. Swill and scum finally allied (7)
22. Pound or strike crease (7)
23. Long weary year doubly affected writer (4)
26. Spoil after excellent quarter (4)
27. Extracts gender from obtuse unknown points (7)
29. Heron having lost heart is gone (4)
32. Was hold for brawl about right? (5)
34. Pulse taken at first with another's kit (4)
35. Indian left Nebraska junket (5)
40. Lands on moon to discover ferrate compound (6)
41. Fellow consumer is old selector (6)
43. Way to make money quickly at last (6)
46. Argue aimlessly every boring point (5)
47. Original energy of biblical object (4)
48. Railway bank supporting cuts (4)
49. Indonesian word for desert class (4)
50. Ship faculty to Levant (4)
52. Old tole using colour and expertise principally (4)



LISTENER CROSSWORD No. 3289

NAME ....

ADDRESS...

....

....

....

POSTCODE...

PRIZES: Book tokens worth £50 will go to the winner. The two runners-up will *each win* £20 book tokens.

ADDRESS: Readers should cut out and send the completed crossword and coupon above, to The *Listener* Crossword 3289, 63 Green Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL3 6HE. Entries must be received by Thursday, February 2.

Solution to No 3286: Ways of Entering by Waterloo

B	E	P	E	L	T	R	E	C	C	E	D	D
A	N	A	T	O	M	I	E	S	A	B	L	E
H	A	M	I	G	E	O	C	A	R	P	I	C
A	M	B	O	A	S	T	H	M	A	T	I	C
I	C	Y	L	N	I	C	O	L	P	A	L	I
M	A	S	A	I	S	S	I	O	W	R	I	E
A	B	E	T	B	U	I	L	W	O	M	E	N
R	A	R	E	D	I	N	G	R	O	I	N	S
J	C	A	N	I	N	E	S	V	E	C	F	S
O	O	P	O	I	T	A	N	O	R	E	A	P
R	A	H	U	N	A	D	A	W	E	I	R	E
A	X	G	S	T	E	Y	V	E	S	I	C	A
M	A	G	N	I	F	I	E	D	S	R	E	K

SPECIAL LIGHTS

Across

5. REC over IES

REC
IES

13. BL under ED

ED
BL

14. bent HAMITE

E
T
HAMI

31. BUILDING block

BUIL
DING

35. GROSVENOR square

GRO
SVE
NOR

43. turning *POINT*

POI
N
T

47. HUNTINGG round S

HUN
GST
GNI

50. IR on IC

IR
IC

Down

10. NAM by PAMBY

P
NA
AM
MB
Y

21. OILW ell

O
I
LW

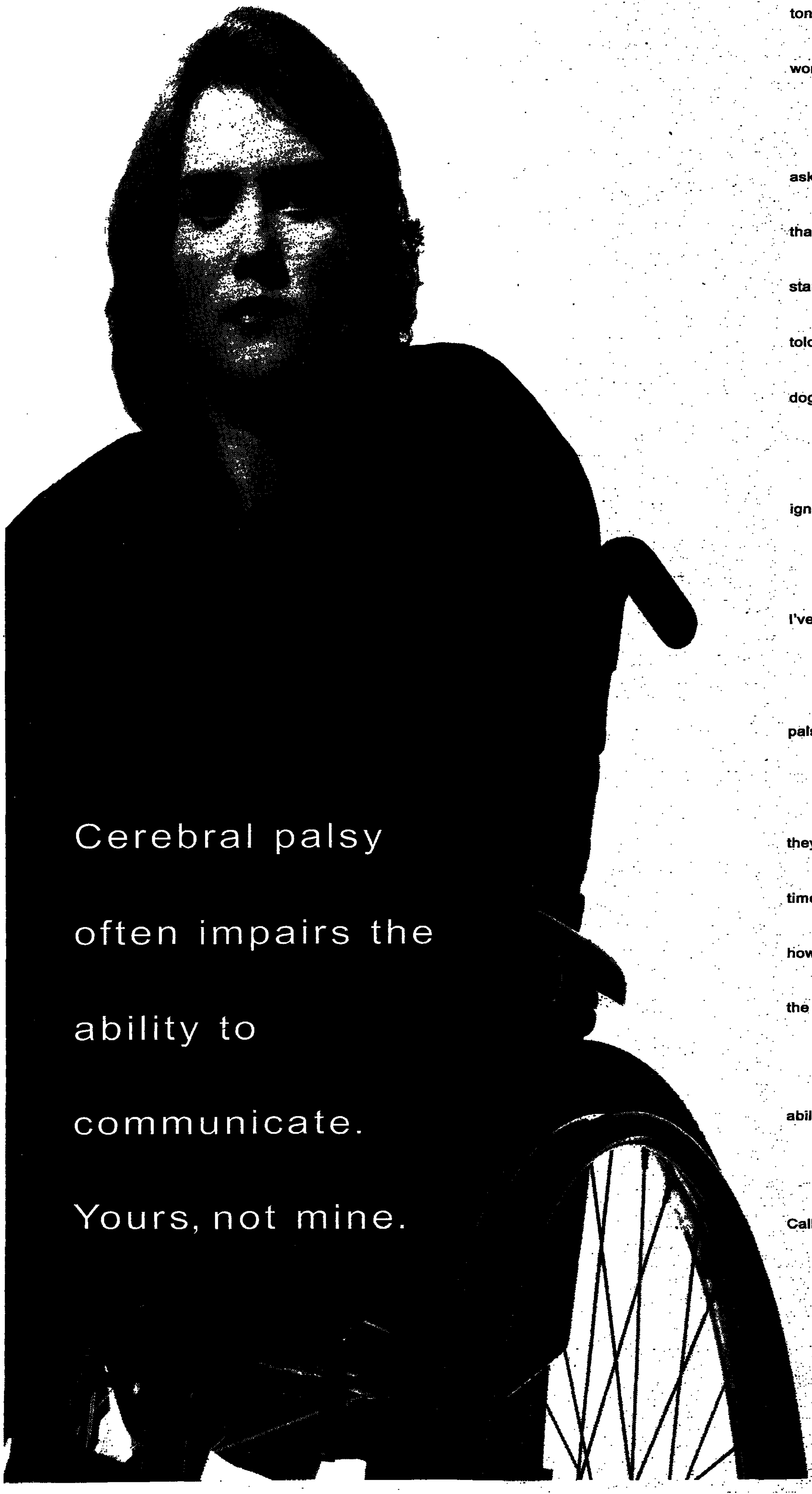
41. SPEAKERS corner

S
P
E
A
SREK

52. Y on I

Y
I

The winner was: L. E. Ellis, of Devizes, Wiltshire, who receives book tokens worth £50. The runners-up were: E. C. Hunt, of Norwich, Norfolk, and G. D. Wood, of Llandudno, Gwynedd, who each receive *book tokens worth* £20.



I know it's difficult to understand what I say. But it would be easier if people tried.

It's the muscles in my jaw and my tongue that are affected, not my mind. That works as clearly as you're reading this.

And I don't care how many times you ask me to repeat myself. I'd rather you do that than just nod and pretend you understand. For all you know, I might have just told you that you've got a face like a bulldog sucking a wasp. Not that I would.

The worst thing is when people just ignore me and look the other way.

Schools, employers, local authorities, I've been ignored by them all.

And like everyone else with cerebral palsy, I'm tired of it.

So are the Spastics Society. That's why they changed to Scope. Because it's about time that everyone with cerebral palsy, however severely disabled, was allowed the scope to live normally.

Which means not having our rights and abilities ignored.

Scope are as keen to talk to you as I am. Call them, local rate, on 0645 486 487.

SCOPE
FOR PEOPLE WITH CEREBRAL PALSY
Formerly The Spastics Society

هكذا من الاصل

Bargains galore in the used car market

Page 7

CAR 95

Win use of a new car for every month of the year

Page 11

SATURDAY JANUARY 21 1995

What set of wheels does a Formula One racing driver keep at home? **Oliver Holt** finds out

My other car's a stress-buster

David Coulthard can cope with the tensions of a track seething with Formula One cars, Michael Schumacher's Benetton in one mirror, Damon Hill's Williams in the other, backmarkers to slice through and hazardous pit-stops to negotiate. It's road driving he is not so fond of.

Despite his youth and comparative lack of experience, Coulthard has already earned himself a reputation as one of the coolest customers in Formula One. He has had the odd altercation with Hill, his teammate at Williams last season, with the Englishman threatening to punch him before August's Belgian Grand Prix.

On a track, he refuses to crack under even the most intense pressure, astonishing those with longer racing pedigrees. But when he sits behind the wheel of his Renault Laguna and braces himself for a foray on public roads, a different kind of tension seizes him.

He does not get his kicks from speeding in the public domain. Unlike some of his Formula One rivals, he does not time regular journeys trying to beat previous records. Like a comic who tires of fans begging him to be funny even when he has left the stage, Coulthard turns his back on speed when he leaves the track. He slips into his driving alter ego — the concerned road-user who abhors show-offs and short-cutters.

"What is most frustrating about driving in Britain," he says, "is people who will not wait their turn. I am not one of those drivers who will rush down the outside of a line of traffic and try to push in. I get very upset and very agitated if people do that. Traffic jams are such a waste of time. It is that kind of behaviour that makes them worse."

Time spent in anything other than a Formula One car has steadily decreased for Coulthard in the past 12 months. Since he was promoted from test driver after the death of Ayrton Senna in May last year, his life has been a whirl of tests, races and promotional events.

Less than a month ago, after a public battle with McLaren for his services, the Williams team, reigning Constructors' Champions, confirmed that he had beaten Nigel Mansell to the coveted team slot alongside Hill for the coming season, which begins on March 12 in Argentina.

With Coulthard's commitments doubled, his free time is doubly precious. When he gets the opportunity to travel from his west London home to see his family in Scotland, he usually heads for the airport — and when he talks about what he wants from a road car, he envisages a mobile sanctuary from snarling queues, not a pleasure-parlour or an alluring "chick-puller".

In the slow lane: David Coulthard saves speed for the racetrack; on Britain's public roads he demands — and gets — a smooth, unruffled ride from his Renault Laguna

He wants a vehicle that does not try to compete in speed or glamour with the one he drives at work, but which instead offers something extra in the comfort zone.

His criteria for a dream car are simple.

"Speed in a car is not really of interest to me," he says. "The road system in Britain is so choc-a-bloc that I am looking for a car that will get me from A to B in as unpressured and unstressed a way as possible.

"I want easy driving: a good suspension that will not jolt me around too much, an automatic so I won't have to keep working the gearbox on busy roads, a good sound system and air conditioning. Even in Britain, there is nothing worse than driving to a business meeting in the summer and arriving with your shirt soaked through.

On the right track: Coulthard started racing at 11 on the Scottish go-kart circuit

"I had an Escort Cosworth when I was younger, which I suppose is an extension of machismo for lads, one better than a Ford Escort. It was a fantastic, fun car for a period of time but if you are doing a lot of miles it is too much hard work. I would take an automatic every time now.

"The Laguna that I was given by Renault when I became the official Williams test driver last year is superb in all the respects I have mentioned. But if I were to pick a dream car I would have to say either a McLaren F1 — because if I could afford that I would know I had really made it — or a Mercedes. That is partly because of familiarity, because I am used to my family having one, and partly because they are solid, reliable and elegant."

Coulthard, whose father, Duncan, owns a successful garage and haulage business based near his son's birthplace in Twynholm, began racing karts in Scotland when he was 11. His first vehicle was the Mercedes van which his family used to transport his equipment to races.

He passed his driving test when he was 17 in the small community of Castle Douglas — "there was only one set of traffic lights and one roundabout but the examiner still nearly failed me because he said I was dilly-dallying" — and then began pushing down the accelerator along the country lanes in a Renault 5 Turbo. After that, it was the Cosworth, then the Laguna 3-litre automatic.

Coulthard appeared to be marked for greatness from the first year he started competitive racing. He won the Scottish junior kart championship for the first time in 1983 and added two more titles thereafter.

More championships in other kart categories followed in successive years. He dominated the junior Formula Ford 1600 championship when he moved up to that in 1989.

He broke a leg while competing in the Vauxhall Lotus Challenge in 1990, but still won that year's McLaren/Autosport Young Driver of the Year title. In the following season he came second to Rubens Barrichello in the British Formula Three

Continued on page 2, col 1

Safety alert on recalls

Owners unaware of brake risk

By Kevin Eason

FORD has warned more than 380,000 owners of Britain's best-selling car that faulty repairs could have made their cars dangerous.

Letters to owners of Escort and Orion models made between 1990 and 1992 contain an instruction sheet explaining how front brake pads should be replaced. They are told to give the sheet to their mechanic and hand it to the next owner of the car along with the handbook. Worried owners called Ford to discover how serious the potential faults could be.

They are among tens of thousands of motorists over the past year who only discover that their car, sometimes almost new, could have a potentially lethal fault when they opened a letter from their manufacturer. Consumer groups claim that the "haphazard" method of sending out letters means that nearly one in four motorists is never traced and notified.

Recalled: the Ford Orion

The level of recalls and repair notifications is huge. Figures given to *The Times* show that 588,337 cars were recalled by the manufacturers last year, in addition to Ford's warning. That means as many as 147,000 motorists might have no idea that their cars need repairing.

Andrew McIlwraith, assistant editor of the Consumer Association's *Which?* magazine, said: "It is worrying that so many cars are not tracked down. A success rate of about 75 per cent disguises the fact that tens of thousands are never checked."

Full details, page 2

NEWS INSIDE

Loads of trouble

Overloading your car with duty free goods when travelling by Eurostar through the Channel Tunnel is causing problems for motorists. Eurotunnel, the company which operates the tunnel, is facing compensation claims from drivers of low-slung sports cars whose vehicles have been damaged by a design fault in the shuttle carriages .... Page 3

The Audi Princess

When the Princess of Wales chose an Audi cabriolet sales of the German cars received an unexpected boost. Nearly a thousand of the model were sold last year. Did she set a trend or was she following one? Catherine Milton gets the wind in her hair and tests the efficiency of the brakes as she tries out the luxury car the paparazzi love to chase .... Page 2

A daughter's first car

What is the best car to buy for a young woman who has just passed her driving test with flying colours? Should it be an old banger or a black Mercedes? We examine the choices; talk to fathers who went for safety and daughters who plumped for style. Renault are just about to launch a new version of that famous ad, but did Papa buy Nicole the right car? .... Page 5

REGULAR FEATURES

AA Gridlock Guide with map .... Page 2
Driven to Distraction .... Page 3
How does it work? .... Page 5
Dr Dashboard .... Page 9
The Times road test .... Page 10
Steering Column .... Page 11

Fear drives women to phone deals

The AA has sound advice for lone female motorists, writes **Tim Jones**

Fear of carjacking, rape, attack and intimidation from men in the grip of "car rage" has led thousands of women who drive alone to take advantage of deals which offer a free telephone with cars.

Independent research commissioned by the RAC among a sample of 250 women shows the biggest single fear among the ten million female motorists who make up 40 per cent of Britain's drivers is of being attacked after a roadside breakdown.

While a third are most anxious about driving alone at night, one in two worries about a breakdown — half fear breaking down in a rural area and a similar number dread being stranded on the hard shoulder of a motorway.

Increasingly, women also fear being targeted by men while driving. They worry about being attacked or forced off the road.

Since making an offer of free telephones with new cars, both Vauxhall and Ford say most of the take-up has been by women. The Ford phone is equipped with an emergency button which instantly connects the driver to an RAC control centre. Vauxhall has a similar system allowing broken-down drivers to be connected to the AA.

Frank Richardson, of RAC rescue services, says: "Mobile phones have a vital role to play in personal safety. Women in particular fear breaking down and a cellular phone offers peace of mind and personal security."

While the AA says the risks of driving alone can be exaggerated, the fear among women is real; a mobile telephone, which can be used to call the police, is just one measure they can take to increase their safety.

Next month the AA will offer all its members a glovebox-size laminated advice card aimed specifically at women. It hopes the advice will help to reduce the concerns shared by female motorists.

The one thing they must never do, says the AA, is give a lift to a stranger, however plausible his tale of woe might seem. Before setting off on a journey, women should plan their route and stick to well-lit main roads. Friends or relatives should be told what time to expect them. At a halt in traffic, they are advised to leave enough space in front of their cars to be able to pull out in an emergency.

They are also warned to beware of anyone who signals that there is something wrong with their car, and to carry on driving unless they are themselves convinced that there is a serious fault with the vehicle.

When driving in town, where rush-hour traffic may reduce the flow to a crawl, doors must be locked and windows and sunroof left only partly open. If someone tries to enter a car, the driver should lean on the horn or use a personal alarm.

If a woman thinks she is being followed she should never stop, but drive to the nearest police station or to a busy street to get help.

If women are stopped by police, they should leave the engine running and ask to be shown identification through a closed window.

When using car parks, women should back their vehicles into spaces near the exit to facilitate a quick getaway, and always have their keys ready.

The RAC and AA emphasise that regular car maintenance minimises the risk of breaking down. Both organisations run workshops on car care for women.

M-way breakdowns — What to do

POLICE advise women who break down on motorways to call the breakdown service, preferably from an emergency telephone so the police control will know where they are and whether they are alone.

☐ They should then wait near the car on the embankment, out of danger, should there be a crash. If a person feels vulnerable, or suspicious of someone else, then they should stay in the locked car.

☐ The AA offers the "Call Safe" system, a simple telephone which can raise the emergency services or the AA and runs off batteries or a car cigarette lighter. All calls are free.

The telephone costs £149.99 plus a one off connection charge of £25 and a quarterly fee of £26.50.

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588,337 potentially defective cars were called back by British dealers for checks and repairs last year. Yours could be one that slipped the net

Just how roadworthy is your new car?

KEVIN EASON

Motoring correspondent

ALEXANDRA King stared in disbelief at the letter from Ford that told her that the family runabout could be dangerous.

She was just about to load her *children into her J-registered* Ford Orion for a long motorway journey when the letter containing Ford's warning that her brakes could be faulty dropped onto the mat of her Coventry home.

Mrs King said yesterday: "I was *surprised and* worried *to* get a notice out of the blue telling me that my car might have a serious problem with its brakes. How am I to know whether the repairs are done properly and whether the car is dangerous or not?"

Robert Miller bought his M-registered Volkswagen Passat in October. On January 11, he was warned by VW that Firestone tyres on the model could crack because of "a material defect". VW's letter added: "A sudden loss of air *cannot be ruled out." In other* words, the tyres could blow out.

The letter to 5,500 owners was dated January 5 but apparently took six days to reach Mr Miller's home in London.

They are just two examples of thousands of motorists worried *and angered by the* fact that they may have been driving cars with potentially dangerous faults without knowing.

Statistics to be published soon by the Vehicle Inspectorate but given to *The Times* show that *manufacturers — from Skoda to* Jaguar, Volvo to Ferrari — were forced to recall cars last year. Forty models — a total of 588,337 cars — were called back to dealers for repairs.

Some recalls were for little more *than a defective lamp, but several* were to trace potentially dangerous faults with brakes, wheel bearings and fuel leaks.

More than 5,000 Renault Safrane models, for example, were recalled because there was "the *possibility of heat transference* from the exhaust system to the fuel tank area". Suzuki called back 3,147 Vitara 4x4 models because *one of its suppliers had not* greased the front wheel bearings properly. The inspectorate noted: "This could result in bearing seizure and loss of control."

More worrying, the last inspectorate check showed notifications *reached only 77.36 per cent of* owners, which means that about 147,000 motorists might have been missed and have no idea that their cars could be defective.

The Consumer Association's *Which?* magazine says that letters *are often sent out to the first owner* of the car when it has been sold on, while some rental cars could also slip through the net. Adrian McIlwraith, assistant editor, said: "It is a matter of concern that so many cars are not tracked down. Although a success rate of about 75 per cent is good, it disguises the fact that tens of thousands of cars are never checked."

Carmakers pay for a list of owners from the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency before they issue their warnings and tell the Vehicle Inspectorate. Gerry Hamill, the inspectorate's head of recalls, accepts the flaws but says that the recall system has a better hit-rate here than in other countries. Dealers are also instructed to correct the fault free of charge.

"The figures do not take into account cars stolen, written off or rectified by a dealer who does not notify the manufacturer," he said. "The manufacturers are trying hard because they certainly do not want faulty cars running around."

And not all cars are affected. VW said that only four cases of faulty tyres had been found but manufacturers insist on checking every car in the batch. That does not stop motorists being baffled as to why serious faults are discovered in models that cost as much as £500 million to develop over years and millions of miles of testing only after they have left showrooms.

In Britain, the switch of foreign cars to right-hand drive can cause unforeseen problems in models originally designed for the Continent.

However, a delivery of faulty components to the factory could pollute hundreds of cars within hours. Ford, for example, turns out 800 Escorts and Orions each day at Halewood, Merseyside.

A manufacturer the size of Ford also faces the problem of motorists who desert official dealers for street-corner garages the moment their cars are out of warranty, as in the case of its potentially defective Escorts and Orions.

Manufacturer's instructions on precisely how to change front pads will be known by Ford dealers who will carry out the correct procedure, but there is no such guarantee when you take your Escort to a garage. It may do the job more by hand and eye than instruction.

That information is no less disquieting for Mrs King and thousands of motorists like her when they receive their warning letters. "Surely cars should work properly when they leave the factory?" she said.

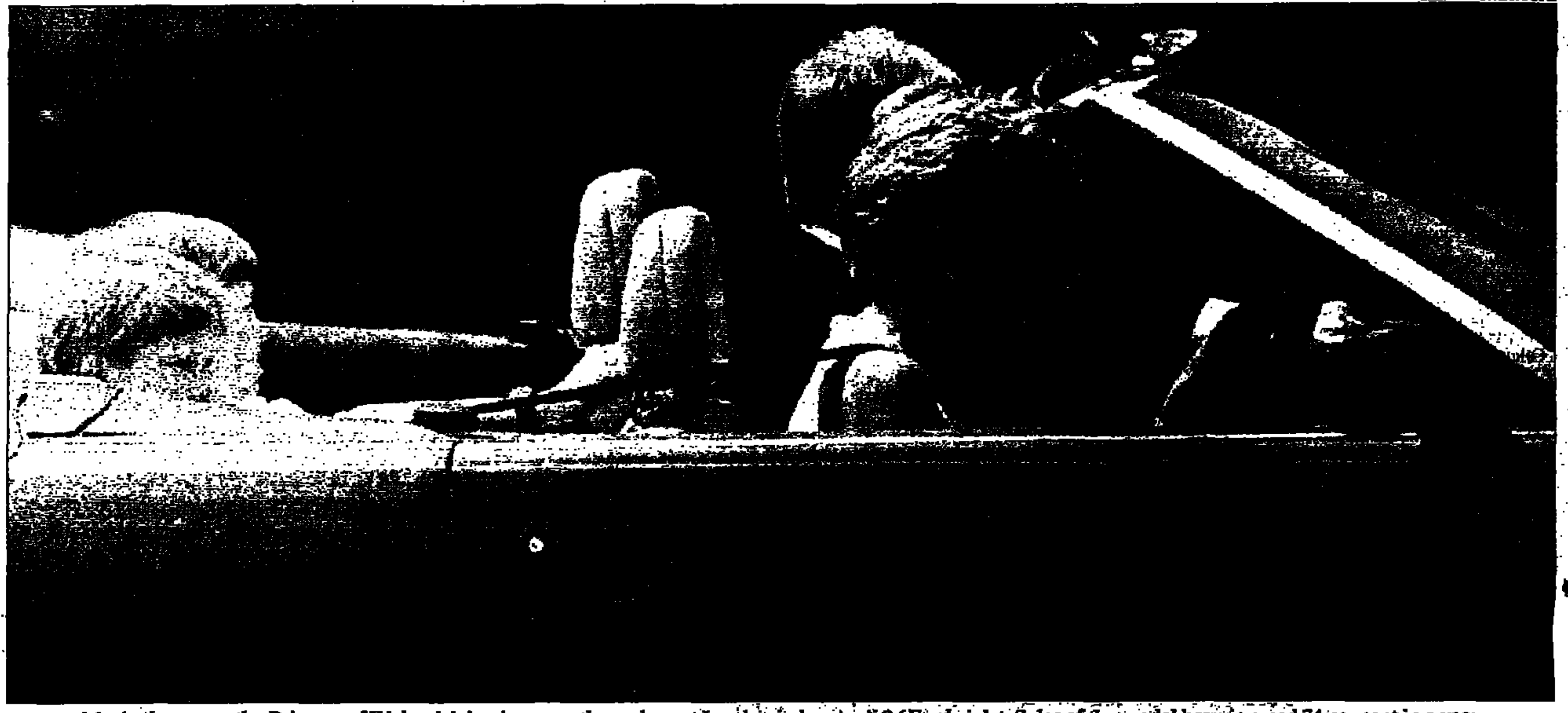
[illegible]

MAKE	BUILD DATES	POTENTIAL FAULT	RECALLED
Citroen Xantia	May 93-Oct 94	parking brake	44,500
Citroen ZX 16v	92-94	brake pipe	515
Ferrari 512TR	various	fuel leak	85
Alfa Romeo 155 2.5 V6	Jun 92-Jun 94	oil leak	195
Ford Mondeo	Oct 92-Jul 94	headlamp	211,524
Jaguar XJ	Oct 94-Nov 94	track rod end nuts	140
Mazda MX-3	May 91-Feb 92	front coil spring	1,590
Mitsubishi Colt 1.8 GTi	92-94	front brake hoses	187
Nissan Micra	Sep 92-Jun 94	floor around handbrake	63,789
Porsche 911 Carrera	94 model	cracks around rear axle	91
Renault Safrane	Dec 91-Mar 94	overheating fuel tank	5,494
Saab 900 5-door	Aug 93-Jan94	driver seat rails	1,662
Saab 9000 Turbo	Aug 91-Mar 94	oil leak	8,276
Saab 9000	Aug 92-May 93	brake light	6,415
Saab 900 3-door	Jan 94-Jun 94	front seats	529
Skoda Favorit hb/estate	Jan 93-Mar 94	lubrication rear w/bearings	16,378
Suzuki Vitara	Sep 93-Jul 94	lubrication front w/bearings	3,147
TVR Griffith/Chimaera	Feb 93-Sep 94	loose damper piston rod	1,200
Volvo 400 2.0	93-94	airbag deployment	6,024
Volvo 850 Turbo	94 models	throttle	1,098
VW Vento/Golf hb & est	Jan 94	defective bolts	76

hb=hatchback; est=estate

Perfect for royalty on the move

Catherine Milton swaps her ageing Morris for the car that has Diana-watchers reaching for their wallets



GLENN HARVEY/A. BIRD

Marketing coup: the Princess of Wales driving her sons through west London in her Audi 2.6E cabriolet. Sales of the model have jumped 74 per cent in a year

When the Princess of Wales began searching for a new car last year she knew exactly what she wanted. There was to be no return to the modest Rover Metro she had swapped for a place in the back of an official Jaguar. She is someone who *sees her car as a bit more than* just a set of wheels. Months after she returned her £72,000 Mercedes SL500 to the dealers because it was too extravagant, the Princess is said to have told a friend she was still "pining" for it.

The Princess has a penchant for driving fast cars. Small wonder. For someone who has, until recently, been subject to so many constraints, the sense of freedom and control that goes with handling a fast car must be irresistible. Her choice of an Audi cabriolet 2.6E proved a pleasant surprise for the manufacturer — sales of the model have nearly doubled since she began to be regularly photographed in it. The car's understated elegance, combined with a powerful engine, first impressed the Princess when she borrowed a cabriolet belonging to Viscount Linley's wife, Serena.

With a standard model retailing at £23,738.53, this is a car for someone who is serious about going places. It has automatic transmission (for £983.47 extra), does 0-60mph in 11.4 seconds and has a top speed of 129mph.

Its modest size and almost sedate design make *it* discretion on wheels in an age when wealth and power crave anonymity. But on the private roads of One's Estate, or under cover of darkness, even the most conservative of motorists might contemplate throwing Alice band to the wind, stamping on the accelerator and driving at 100mph with the top down.

The steering is light and the suspension, while comfortable, registers any lumps and bumps encountered by the wheels, reassuring the driver that the car is still on the ground, not cruising a couple of inches above it.

Swapping my Morris 1000 saloon for this sporty little coupé was not easy, however. In the Morris (0-60mph in several minutes — if the car *starts), the idea of* accelerating is, frankly, wishful thinking. Pedal to the floor, I have achieved 90mph with a strong wind behind me. In the Audi, I notched up a ton by accident.

I can vouch for the cabriolet's braking system. It is excellent, as I discovered with relief when I belatedly noticed some pavement between me and a parking bay I was trying to enter at speed.

High velocity is always possible in the Audi. It holds the lurching camber of Norfolk roads just as well as the great plains of the M11, and its powerful headlamps light dark and twisting country lanes so effectively that night-driving need hardly be sedate.

The design of the windscreen and windows means the roof can come down in the January chill without fear of frostbite. This year Audi has improved safety with a driver's airbag and an automatic reel belt with child-safety function. The company has also updated its anti-theft features with a second-generation immobiliser.

This is strictly a car for One and One's Chosen Escort.

> 'Strictly a car for One and One's Escort'

The royal has-beens: a modest Mini Metro before her marriage to the Prince of Wales, left, and the more elegant and expensive lines of an official Rover in 1993

There is little room for rear-seat passengers. If the lack of legroom were not enough, those stuffed in the back are also perfectly positioned for a shower of cleaning fluid every time the driver cleans the windscreen.

The Princess's public love affair with the Audi cabriolet has been presented as a monumental marketing coup for the German carmaker. Sales of the model jumped 74 per cent last year. Almost 1,000 found buyers in 1994, compared with 568 the year before.

Fergus Hampton, managing director of Computerised Media Services, the media analyst, said: "I can't think of any other factor that was likely to have caused this increase. They had no special promotion, there was no model change or change to the specifications. That leaves only the publicity after Princess Diana decided to drive one."

The company graciously concedes that her choice of wheels has not exactly hurt their sales, but its spokesmen are adamant that the sleek *little soft-top* was selling well before her intervention.

"It was a deal between Herself and one of our dealers," a spokesman said. "Obviously our sales have increased. She has increased the car's profile."

Scotts of Sloane Square has found trade particularly brisk. Carl Ward, managing director, says he sold 45 last year. "Our clients certainly don't mention the fact that [the Princess of Wales] has affected their interest at all.

"Whether she has or not, we have had a steady increase in sales right from the first month. We sold 45 last year and we expect to sell about the same number this year."

He says men and women are buying the car in roughly equal proportions. It appeals to those of all ages with the cash to match their aspirations. However, its purchasers are united by a business-like approach to life.

Mr Ward knows instinctively what the media pundits have missed. The car suits the comparatively reserved tastes of the monied classes in the 1990s. Far from being a trendsetter whose choice of car has prompted a boom in sales, the Princess has become a trendy.

With her royal status no longer weighing so heavily on her shoulders, she has at last become free to be one of the herd, rather than sticking to the singular script devised by Buckingham Palace.

[illegible]

Insurance costs less

Insurance costs are tumbling as car crime and accident rates are cut across the country. The AA says that premiums for the average comprehensive policy have fallen by almost 1 per cent, in spite of the Government's Budget imposition of a 2.5 per cent tax. That means a motorist paying £367.27 for a policy in July would pay only £363.85 this month. Motorists in Wigan are best off, with premiums down by 5.96 per cent. Those in Dorchester, Oxfordshire, have seen their costs rise 2.62 per cent.

Big Cat wins applause

Jaguar's new XJ12 saloon has been named World's Most Beautiful Car in what is widely regarded as the home of car design. Judges at the Milan International Competition at the Palazzo Dell'Arte were given the year's new models to look at and the "Big Cat", made in Coventry, swept the board. Jaguar sales rose 10 per cent to 30,000 worldwide last year.

Tracker foils thieves

Police recovered a stolen car in just four minutes after it was taken by thieves using the new Tracker detection system. Thieves took the M-registered Land Rover Discovery in Manchester, activating the Tracker signal, which is picked up by police locators. A helicopter was on the trail immediately and the car was returned to its owner.

Bosses buy German

More than half Britain's bosses are driving German cars, according to a survey by the Cowie Group, one of the country's biggest dealer chains. The company checked its computer file of 200 top businessmen and discovered that although Jaguar was the most popular choice, Mercedes and BMW together took 54 per cent of sales.

£5,000 reward

Norwich Union is funding rewards of between £500 and £5,000 for information leading to the arrest of gangs of motorcycle thieves. Sales of motorcycles have bounced back after a 20-year decline, with registrations up 9.2 per cent last year, bolstered by motorists trying to beat road congestion. But theft costs the Norwich £10.5 million a year in claims.

Continued from page 1

championship. In 1993, the year before he got his big break with Williams, he finished third in the European F3000 championship with the Paul Stewart racing team.

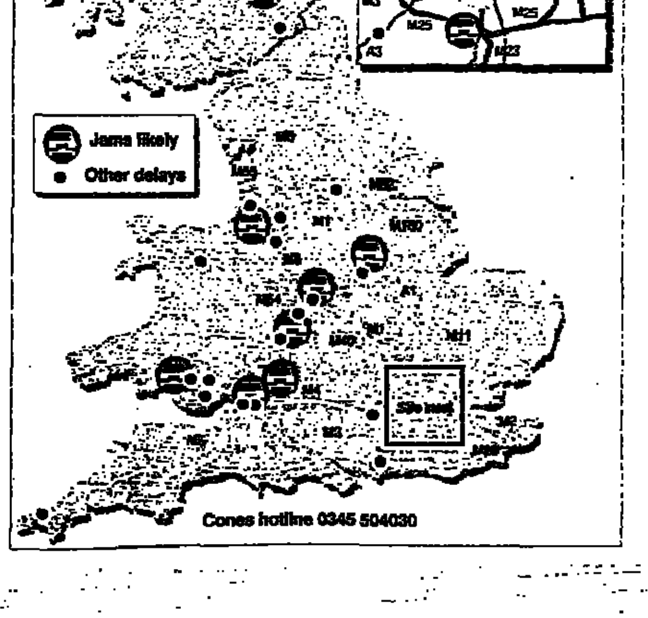
Despite the fact that he is now paid a six-figure salary for controlling and hustling a hi-tech vehicle around the racetracks of the world, Coulthard is not sure whether, once he is transformed into an ordinary motorist behind the wheel of an ordinary car, he is still a good driver.

"The problem is that there is not enough going on to focus my attention," he says.

"I find myself thinking about other things and it is hard to adapt to not driving to a racing line and using different braking distances to the ones we use in Formula One.

I think I make an 'okay' road car driver, but you would probably find a chauffeur, somebody who does it for a job, would be a better driver than me."

MAJOR ROADWORKS



Cones hotline 0345 504030

THE AA'S GRIDLOCK GUIDE

LONDON

A406 North Circular, Upper Edmonton: road width reduced on Lea Valley viaduct.

A406 North Circular, East Finchley: down to one lane between A1 junc and A1000 Finchley High Rd.

A201 Farringdon St closed northbound under Holborn viaduct until end January

A219 Putney Bridge: reduced to one lane each way until June

A102 Blackwall Tunnel northern approach: weekend roadworks at junction with the A13 (from 7am today to 5pm tomorrow) — southbound traffic diverted

SOUTH EAST

M25 Surrey J7-8 (M23/Reigate) contraflow until early March. Overnight closures.

M25 Surrey J10-11 (A3/Chertsey): contraflow until early February.

A3 Guildford, Surrey: major works between Burpham and Hog's Back starting today. Overnight at first, then down to one lane each way from the 26th until end June.

A329 Bracknell, Berkshire: work at Met Office roundabout (junction with A322/A3095/B3022) until mid June

A27 Chichester Bypass, Sussex: contraflow between East Hampnett and Wick roundabouts until May.

SOUTH WEST

M5 Gloucestershire J11-12 (Cheltenham/Gloucester): contraflow until September

M4 Avon J20-21 (Almondsbury/Aust) lane restrictions and contraflows until May 1996.

A38 Avon: temporary lights between Almondsbury and Rudgeway until February.

A3029 Bristol, Avon: Merchants Rd in Cumberland Basin System closed at Junction Lock Bridge. Diversions via Plimsoll Bridge until end February

A3074 Cornwall: temporary lights between St Ives and Carbis Bay until February.

MIDLANDS

A38 Fernhill Heath, Hereford/Worcester: bridge work north of Worcester with *temporary lights and very narrow width — through traffic advised to follow diversions* until June.

A4103 west of Worcester, Hereford/Worcester: sewer works on Bransford Rd in Rushwick with various restrictions and diversions until end March.

A52 Nottingham Ring Rd, Notts: works between Dunkirk and Nottingham Knight affecting Clifton Blvd, Queens Drive flyover and Lenton Lane slip road until April.

A45 Stonebridge, West Midlands: flyover construction at the A452 junction and widening between the M42 J6 and Stonebridge Island — 40mph limit and lane closures until June.

M6 West Midlands J4a-6 (near Birmingham): major work with a contraflow until March.

M5 West Midlands J3-4 (South-west of *Birmingham): various lane closures* with additional restrictions sometimes overnight until end February.

NORTH

M6 Cheshire J20-21A (Lymm/Croft): roadworks continue near Thelwall viaduct until May.

M63 Greater Manchester J9-J11 (Princess Parkway/Cheadle): various restrictions as *roadworks continue until end March.*

M57 Merseyside J1-2 (M62/Prescot): closed both ways over weekend (until 6am, Monday) as part of works at Tarbock island which continue until April.

A506 Kirby, Merseyside: bridge repairs on Valley Rd between Whitefield Drive and Kirby Row until end March.

A1M South Yorkshire J36-J37 (Warmsworth/Marr): continuing bridge works. Closed this and next weekend from 8pm Saturday to 6am Monday.

A655 near Castleford, West Yorkshire: temporary lights working 24 hours a day in Whitwood (also affecting traffic from J31 of *the M62)* until March.

WALES

M4 Gwent J23-22 (Magor/Newhouse): widening work between Magor and Rogiet for the construction of second Severn crossing until June.

A449 Gwent, between Usk and Raglan: contraflow with only one lane available until the end January

A465 West Glamorgan, between Llandarcy and Aberdulais: contraflow on Sellings viaduct for resurfacing until June.

A4223 Pontypridd, Mid Glamorgan: one way system on Gelliwastad Rd for widening work until end of June.

A5 Maerdy, Clwyd: work at Glyn bends. Restrictions including temporary lights and short-term closures until end July.

SCOTLAND

M8 Lothian J1 (Newbridge): restrictions between J1 and the Edinburgh Bypass for motorway construction

Edinburgh: restrictions on the High St between the North and South bridges.

Roadworks at Kings Rd roundabout in the Portobello area, with restrictions on all approaches until February.

A96 Fochabers, Grampian: down to single lane for Bridge repairs until February.

A68 south of Jedburgh, Borders: temporary lights at Inchbonny Brig until March.

NORTHERN IRELAND

M2 Co Antrim: closed southbound between Greencastle and Nelson Street over this weekend from 6am today to 6am Monday.

M5 Co Antrim: closed southbound between Rushpark and M2 junc from 6am today until 6am Monday.

A26 Coleraine, Co Londonderry: temporary lights on Newbridge Rd at Windyhall.

Beware: this train can dent your Ferrari

The Channel Tunnel was built to the highest safety specifications. **Tim Jones** reports on an unexpected hitch that has left some customers far from happy

Eurotunnel, the company which operates the Channel Tunnel, is facing insurance claims running into tens of thousands of pounds from owners of low-slung sports cars which have been damaged while driving onto tourist shuttles.

The £10 billion tunnel, one of the engineering wonders of the world, has been subjected to every safety test known to man. Only a direct hit by an atomic bomb, it is claimed, could fracture its walls.

The need to install and thoroughly test layers of overlapping safety and design measures pushed back the original opening date from May 1993 to last December. Then the tunnel finally started servicing turn-up-and-pay customers, and over the past few months more than 82,000 motorists have travelled beneath the Channel from Folkestone to Calais.

Most of them have enjoyed the trip, marvelled at the speed and dined out on the experience of being among the first to cross the English Channel on dry land.

But one small design fault has left a few far from happy. Mainly, these are the owners of elite cars, such as Ferraris, which can be legally let off the leash only on the autobahns of Germany.

Some family saloons, if loaded with four hefty adults and weighed down to the gunnels with cheap drink from the supermarkets of Calais, could also be at risk on the return trip.

The problems have been caused by the safety barriers that are raised when each Le Shuttle tourist coach has been loaded with four or five cars. Their purpose is to prevent cars crashing through fire doors in the event of a sudden emergency stop.

The barriers are retracted while the cars are loaded onto the train and when they drive off, but they do not lie completely flush with the floor.

This has proved to be an expensive oversight for those elite cars whose chassis, spoilers, exhausts or sumps have less than 10cm clearance from the ground. With Ferraris, which cost £80,000 and more, virtually any scrape not caused by driver error can lead to expensive insurance claims.

Eurotunnel admits the problem has been caused by a design oversight which did not come to light during its extensive testing procedures.

But the company stresses that fewer than one car in a 1,000 — less than 100 in total — has been affected and that only 20 or so cars have suffered damage that can be classified as serious.

As a temporary solution, while negotiations begin with Bombardier, the manufacturer, on how the problem can be overcome, special sensoring devices have been installed at the terminals to identify cars that have under 10cm clearance.

These are held back and loaded onto the rear wagon so they are faced with having to negotiate only one barrier hump.

> 'Saloons laden with drink could also be at risk'

The problem of squeezing odd-sized cars into the tight confines of Le Shuttle not only affects low-slung sportsters.

Bulky four-wheel-drive off-roaders also have to be checked — this time for height. Electronic gauges at the ticket booths quickly tell officials whether a 4x4 is too high to fit into the carriage. Width can also be a problem for the unwary driver. A Range Rover, 6ft 6in from wing-mirror tip to wing-mirror tip, is a tight squeeze.

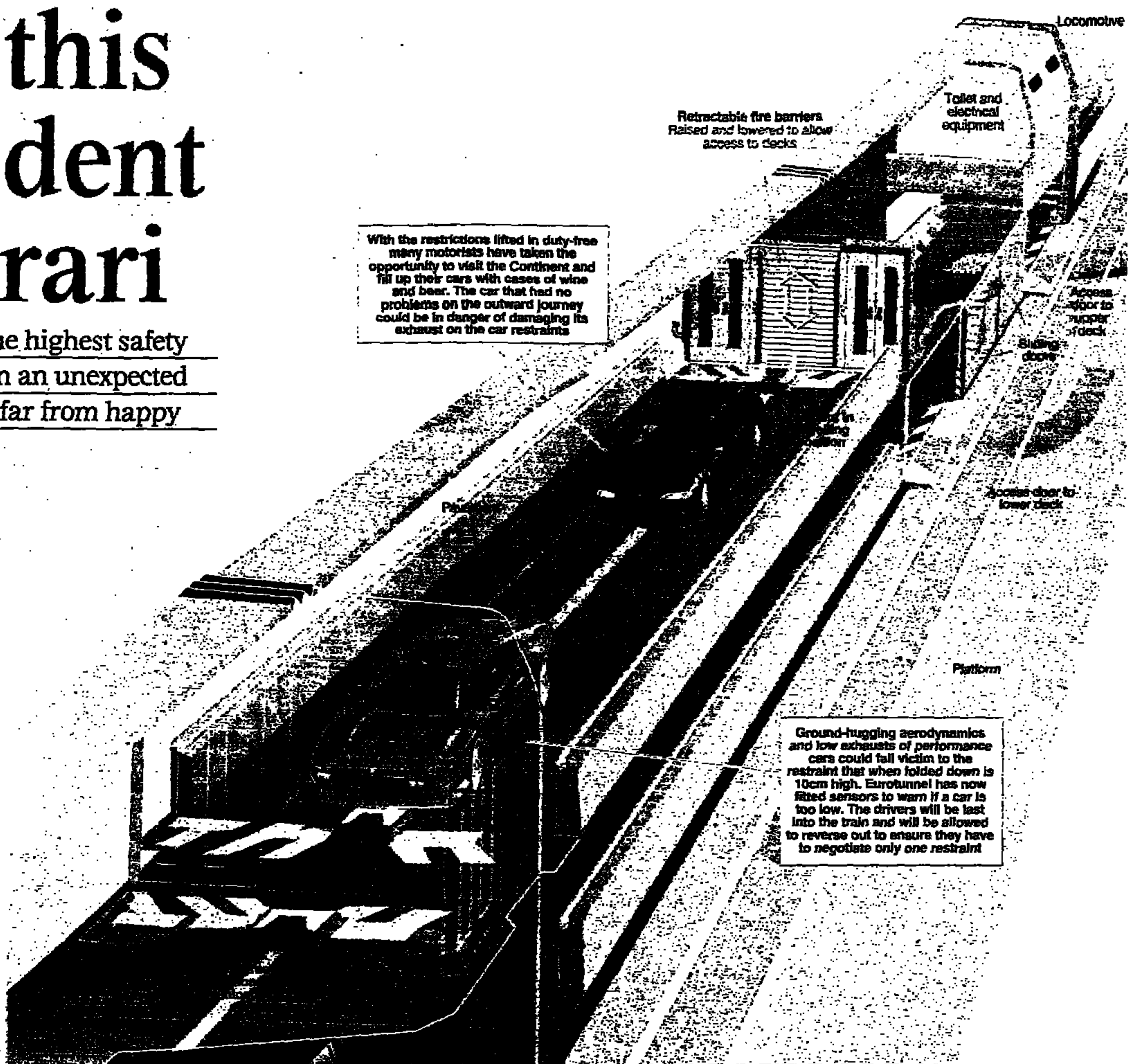
If a car is damaged but can still be driven, the motorist fills in a form available from one of the train attendants, requiring an estimate to be provided from a garage for the cost of repairs.

The claim is then settled after discussions between Eurotunnel's loss adjusters and the driver's insurance company.

If a car is so badly damaged that it cannot be driven, the driver will be provided with a hire car, paid for by Eurotunnel, while his car is taken to a garage to be repaired. That has happened only once.

In spite of the embarrassment, Eurotunnel is confident that, occasional scrapes apart, the Le Shuttle wagons are among the safest coaches ever built.

The potential hazard to which most attention has been given is fire. In the event of hydrocarbon vapours, smoke or flames being detected, automatic alarms will sound allowing the affected wagons to be evacuated. If a fire is judged to be life-threatening, low concentrations of Halon 1301 will be discharged to smother the flames. The fire barriers in each coach are designed to contain even the worst outbreak of fire for at least 30 minutes, time for the train to drive out of the tunnel and reach a terminal.


Locomotive
Toilet and electrical equipment
Retractable fire barriers Raised and lowered to allow access to decks
Access door to upper deck
Sliding doors
Access door to lower deck
Platform

With the restrictions lifted in duty-free many motorists have taken the opportunity to visit the Continent and fill up their cars with cases of wine and beer. The car that had no problems on the outward journey could be in danger of damaging its exhaust on the car restraints

Ground-hugging aerodynamics and low exhausts of performance cars could fall victim to the restraint that when folded down is 10cm high. Eurotunnel has now fitted sensors to warn if a car is too low. The drivers will be last into the train and will be allowed to reverse out to ensure they have to negotiate only one restraint

Large four-wheel-drive off-roaders that are over six feet high are directed into the single deck tourist wagons with the coaches. The new Range Rover with adjustable ride height will squeeze in with the other cars but could be wide enough to hit toilet bays with the wing mirrors found in every third wagon unless care is taken

GRAPHIC BY JOHN LAWSON

Damaged goods: Eurotunnel faces big insurance claims

NEWS IN BRIEF

Multiple choice for new buyers

THE first car showroom with multiple brands under one roof has opened in Cambridge. Buyers going to Marshall Motor Group's new centre can check on Rover, Toyota, Lexus, Nissan, Citroen and Vauxhall cars within yards of each other.

Marshall has taken a courageous step towards a concept that manufacturers and dealers have shunned over the years in spite of encouragement from consumer groups. They want buyers to see different models in close competition.

Samara on ice

After the riches poured on Andy Cole, below, Manchester United's £7 million signing, comes news of an incentive for the nearby Trafford Metros ice hockey side. The team, hailed as ready to take ice hockey "into a new era", has been sponsored by Lada so every member gets a new Samara, which could cost as much as £7,500. Eat your heart out, Andy.

Sun kings

Sun Alliance is Britain's biggest motor insurer, according to Smith New Court, the industry analysts. Sun Alliance insures 1.38 million motorists followed by Direct Line with 1.26 million and Eagle Star, 1.04 million.

£2,500 search

The search has started for Britain's best disabled driver with a top prize of a £2,500 foreign holiday. Entries to 1995 RAC Response Disabled Driver of the Year Competition, PO Box 306, Bristol BS99 5RY. Closing date January 31.

Shock warning

Millions of motorists could be driving on dangerously worn shock absorbers, according to a survey carried out by Monroe Europe (UK). The shock absorber manufacturer calculated that one in four cars has faulty equipment which could lead to instability on braking.

Golden oldie

Helen Nicholls refused to be rebuffed after she was told she was too old to be a volunteer driver for her local hospice. Mrs Nicholls, 80, from Coggeshall, Essex, took her Renault Clio off to the Institute of Advanced Motorists — and passed their tough test first time.

I found the Krypton Factor much more difficult
GED

Volvo optimistic

Volvo will be back on the tracks with its 850 model this year. The company entered its 850 estate in the British Touring Cars Championship last year with mixed success but reckons that saloon versions will be quicker this season.

Million mark

Nissan has produced a million cars at its showpiece factory at Washington, Tyne & Wear. The first car to be made at Washington was a Bluebird which came off the assembly lines on July 8, 1986: the millionth was a dark green Nissan Primera 2.0SE saloon.

Sally forth

Calling all women called Sally with AA membership. Be first to turn up at an AA shop today and collect a free five-day return ticket on a Sally Line ferry. AA members can also cash in on discounts and special offers at any of the organisation's 275 shops.

DRIVEN TO DISTRACTION: **Peter Barnard**

Petrol? Who wants to buy petrol from an all-night service station?

This column is a weekly gripe about motoring, the written equivalent of shaking a fist out of the window or leaning on the horn button. It will be better mannered than either of those activities, but hopefully not much. It will often be unreasonable, as befits a column starting in a week when a man was fined for "refusing to be overtaken by a Skoda".

My opening gripe finds me at one of those swish all-night garages in search of the usual: a packet of cigarettes, a couple of compact discs and some Earl Grey teabags. The queue is quite long for the time, which is nearly midnight, and I soon realise what the trouble is. There are thoughtless people in front of me who have come in to buy petrol.

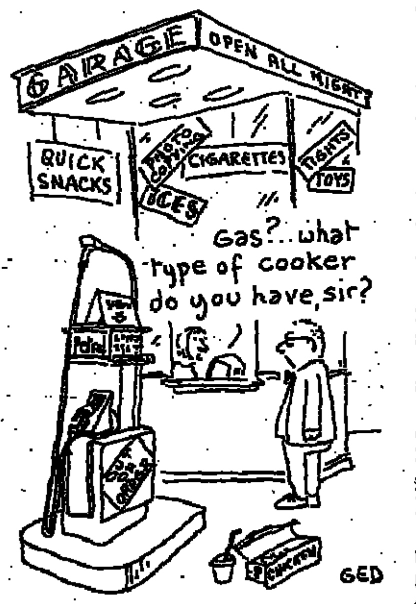
And they take ages, especially the drivers of company cars, who always seem to carry petrol charge cards the particular garage does not accept.

They also get involved in a tortuous bureaucratic procedure that makes registering the birth of triplets with three different fathers seem like a picnic.

They have to give the car registration number, which involves a trip to the window because they change Astras so often they never get to memorise the number.

Then they need the mileage, for crying out loud, so they either have to make it up (best) or take a trip to the car (five minutes).

I think these perishing petrol purchasers are planted by the petrol companies (bit of a misnomer, there) to delay the queue. The rest of us, shuffling and mumbling behind these anti-social freaks, start gazing around the store. Aha! The man in front of me has cracked and nips off to buy a pair of 30-denier tights. He must be a bank robber . . . or something.



The chap in front of him, who is close to the counter, has had his attention caught by the multi-flavoured condoms thereon. Interesting marketing, that. The counters of these stores always seem to be stocked with items somehow associated with, shall we say, the night shift.

Hello, the chap behind me is sniffing. And he is right, something is cooking. A couple at the back of the queue, having planned to celebrate their anniversary at a restaurant, now find the time marching on and so they have settled for steak and kidney pie (him) and chicken madras (her), which emerges in a trice from the in-store microwave. Scrumptious: perhaps The Times will send Jonathan Meades around.

At last the chap in front of me reaches the counter. "Number four," he says. The girl looks blank. "Number four," he repeats, "the super unleaded." The girl gives out a theatrical sigh. Petrol! Such a nuisance.

Years ago we had a spot of bother getting into work at Wapping and one day day a picket threw paint-stripper over my car. "Vandal," I shouted. "Volvo driver," he replied. His insult was the more telling: I sold the Volvo.

Why? Because a man in Sweden is not going to tell me when I need sidelights on in London. I have come to hate Volvos and I believe their drivers are the worst on the planet.

They never signal at junctions, they drive in the middle of the road, they lane-change on the basis that they are immune from attack. And they sit there looking as smug as a crash-test-dummy.

Volvo drivers (who are probably reading this at the wheel) can respond to this outrageous prejudice: a bottle of champagne for the best defence. Ditto for the best anti-Volvo story.

On a radio phone-in programme the other day I heard a ranter from wildest Essex declare that lorry drivers are the biggest menace on the roads. Absolute tosh. Lorry drivers aren't the problem, but lorry manufacturers are.

This week, in the sort of rain that impelled Noah to build an ark, motorists have been bearing down on huge lorries that appear to have rear lights borrowed from bicycles.

A great stern wash sweeps towards us from the back of these vehicles, rendering the lorry almost invisible. In an age when huge car rear lights shine at us from head height and brake lights burst into life from rear windows, the lorry builders are way behind the times.

'Supercars' are back

Manufacturers are beefing up their models for drivers who like speed, writes **Kevin Eason**

FAST cars are back with a vengeance, dispelling memories of the recession and speeding the motor industry towards better times.

Porsche, which saw sales dip by two thirds during the recession, released news this week of its most powerful car yet, a twin turbo-charged, 408 brake horsepower, four-wheel-drive 911 that will roast the asphalt.

Although no official figures have been published in advance of the car's launch at the Geneva Motor Show in March, it is expected that 0-60mph will be achieved in fewer than five seconds. Top speed will probably break through the 180mph barrier.

The styling of the new 911 remains as familiar as ever, except that the new turbo will have fatter wheel arches. Under the bonnet, the flat 3.6-litre, six-cylinder engine is mated to a six-speed gearbox through a four-wheel-drive system that feeds the most power to the wheel with the best traction.

There is also an advanced braking system that applies each brake individually to prevent wheelspin in a car of such prodigious power.

If Porsche is setting the pace this year, Mercedes-Benz could overtake its German supercar rival soon.

Ron Dennis, head of McLaren, let slip that the new relationship between his Formula One Grand Prix team and Mercedes could lead to a road-going car with F1 technology.

McLaren already has its £540,000 F1 supercar on sale using a 6.1-litre BMW engine capable of 627 brake horsepower — enough for a 231mph top speed. McLaren would build the Mercedes version at its headquarters in Woking, Surrey, with Benz instead of BMW power.

Although a long way in the future, the price would be beyond all but a handful of enthusiasts.

For those with much smaller purses, Fiat this week announced details of a tiny sportster that could put a smile on plenty of faces.

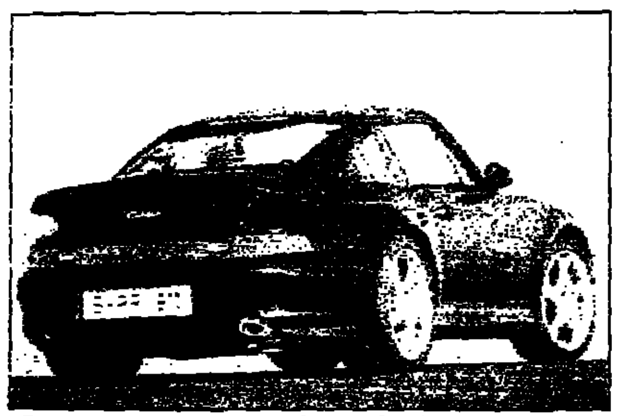
The Italian manufacturer has produced a sporting version of its acclaimed Cinquecento baby car. Already so cute it hurts, the Cinquecento Sporting has alloy wheels, low-profile tyres, body skirts and a burnished exhaust pipe. Inside there is leather trim.

The engine is still only 1.1-litre with 54 brake horsepower, but, using a five-speed gearbox, that is enough for sparky performance. The car will move from rest to 62mph in 14.2 seconds — nearly four seconds quicker than the standard model — and on to a top speed of 93mph. Hardly Porsche territory, but enough for a car that is only 10ft 6in long and 4ft 6in wide.

THE best news about the Sporting, however, is that in tweaking the Cinquecento's engine, there has been little loss of fuel economy. The Sporting will still return about 47.5 miles to the gallon.

Porsche owners, even those with wallets large enough to hold a Cinquecento, would envy that sort of return for their money. They will be lucky to get 14 miles for each gallon of unleaded they pour into their sleek turbo-monster.

As for the fuel consumption of the future McLaren-Mercedes, if you need to ask, you definitely can't afford one.



Revamped: the new Porsche 911 should dazzle owners

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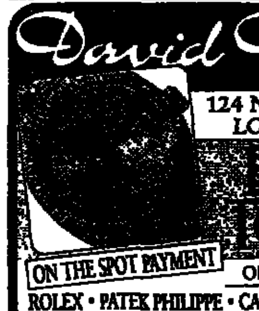

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94M 525 A TD Oxford Green, ABS, ESR, Airbag, Alloys, Walnut Trim ++ . 2T £21,995
93K 525i A SE MV Granite, Alloys, ABS, EW, RHR, EH Box, Fogs ... 27T £20,995
89G 525i A SE Alpine White, ABS, FCAR, Cruise, OBC, Alloys 28T £12,995
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93K 328i A Granite, Alloys, PAS, Dechrome 14T £18,995
92K 318i A Calypso Red, ABS, Spoilers, PAS, Alloys 14T £16,995
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91H 325i M Sport Granite, Black Hide, ABS, ESR, FEW, BBSs, LSD ++ 24T £14,695
91J 325i A 2D Dolphin Grey, PAS, ESR, FEW, ABS, Alloys 15T £12,995
93L 320i A Coupe E36 Granite, Air Con, OBC, CD, Hot Locks 13T £21,995
93L 320i M Coupe E36 Lagoon Green, ESR, Hot Locks, FCARR + ... 8T £20,995
92J 320i A 4D SE E36 Granite, PAS, ESR, FEW, Alloys 33T £16,495
91J 320i M 4D SE E36 Black, PAS, ESR, FEW, Alloys, Fogs 14T £15,995
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93L 316i 4Dr Man Glacier Blue 16k £14,495
91J 318i Auto White Sunroof Alloys 34k £12,995
92K 318i 4Dr Auto Black Manual Sunroof 33k £13,995
93K 318iS Coupe, Lagoon Green, Electric Sunroof, 22k £16,995
93K 318iS Coupe, Man White, Sunroof 24k £16,995
94L 318iS Coupe, Black Electric Sunroof, 7k £18,995
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92J 325i SE Auto White Air Con Sunroof Alarm 6k £18,495
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89G 520i SE Auto Silver Sunroof Alloys 55k £9,995
92J 520i 24v Man Red Sunroof 33k £12,995
90G 525i SE Auto Silver Sunroof Alloys 49k £11,995
92K 525i SE Man Granite F.Arm Rsts M-Tech S.Susp 41k £16,495
94L 525 TDS SE Fjord Grey 9k £21,995
94 525i SE Auto Orient Blue Metallic Latest Spec 11k £24,995
94L 525i Sport Avus Blue Air Bag De-Chrome 14k £24,995
92K 535i SE Black Metallic Sunroof Alloys 30k £19,495
90H M5 Blk Metallic Half Leather Auto Air Alarm 52k £21,995
94L M5 Mugello Red Half Lthr Air-Con, 9Jx17 R/Alloys 5k £45,995
91J 735i SE Auto White Black Leather 43k £17,995
94L 740i LA Calypso Black Leather ASC+T 9k £37,995
90H 325i Conv Auto, Glacier Leather 7Jx15 Alloys 58k £13,795
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89F 325i Tour Man Black 7Jx15 Allys S/Roof Sports Sts 61k £9,995
94L 520i SE Tour Granite Air-Con/No Roof Immobiliser 10k £20,995
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Source: NRS June-Nov 94

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HOW DOES IT WORK?

Airbag systems

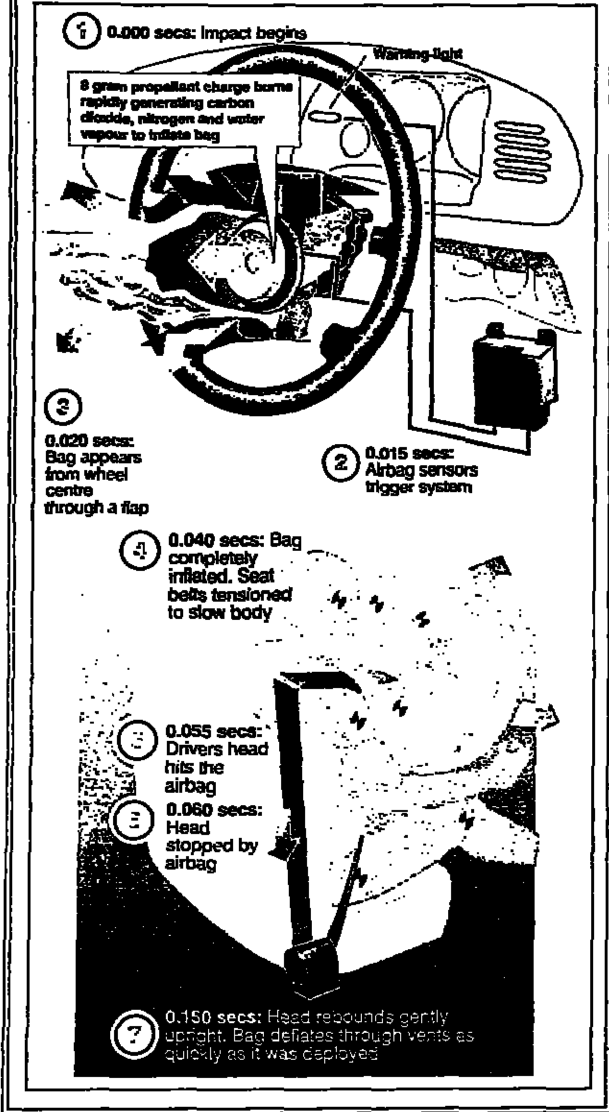
THE different airbag systems all work the same way, triggering, inflating and deflating within 150 milliseconds — faster than the blink of an eye.

The Vauxhall system will only be triggered if two sensors register a frontal or near-frontal impact of 20 mph or more.

The ignition capsule behind the airbag is activated within 20 milliseconds of the accident, and within 25 milliseconds is bursting out of the steering wheel housing through almost invisible split lines.

The sensors trigger an electronic impulse to the explosive charge in the gas generator which contains sodium azide. Once ignited, this instantly generates around 30 litres or so of gases, mostly harmless nitrogen, to fill the neoprene-coated nylon bag.

The "smoke" seen coming from a deployed airbag is in fact talcum powder to prevent it sticking.


① 0.000 secs: Impact begins
Warning-light
8 gram propellant charge burns rapidly generating carbon dioxide, nitrogen and water vapour to inflate bag
③ 0.020 secs: Bag appears from wheel centre through a flap
② 0.015 secs: Airbag sensors trigger system
④ 0.040 secs: Bag completely inflated. Seat belts tensioned to slow body
⑤ 0.055 secs: Drivers head hits the airbag
⑥ 0.060 secs: Head stopped by airbag
⑦ 0.150 secs: Head rebounds gently upright. Bag deflates through vents as quickly as it was deployed

Old banger or swish Mercedes, a daughter's first car often says more about her father, writes **Morag Preston**

Daddy's little runabout

JULIAN HERBERT

Briony Leyland with her first car, "Lady B". The Beetle lasted six months; now she wants something more reliable

When a generous father hands his grateful daughter the keys to her first car, he knows she's on the road to independence. He chooses a car with the same care that he would show choosing a husband for her. Unfortunately, daddy does not always know best.

Some young women are likely to have minor scrapes due to lack of concentration, so safety is a primary concern for daddy's little girl. To save money and fill his leisure time, he may buy her a banger and appoint himself chief mechanic. Happy just to have a set of wheels, it is hard for a girl to say no.

Otherwise, his good intentions may be led astray by jazzy interiors and go-faster stripes. "Cute" is daddyspeak for electric-bright graphics which appear "fashionable" and "stylish" to fathers alone.

The AA recommends a small car that is cheap to buy, run and insure; something with "street-cred" that is not too sporty, such as the Nissan Micra (£6,900-£9,800). Girls stay loyal to the model in which they passed their tests and, says Huguette Boyagis, PR manager at Fiat, they "want the car that all their friends have".

Renault Clio's successful advertising campaign is testimony to the pride fathers take in their daughter's car. The Clio (£6,700-£9,500) is fun like the pretty starlet, Nicole, but has the added refinement of a bigger car as personified by Papa. He drives a blue one, and trusts the Clio enough to buy her a red one.

Nicole seems happy enough in the advert, but what do other girls think of their first car?

Briony Leyland, 22, a journalist at BBC Radio Solent: "Dad knew if he bought me a car and restored it, his little girl would be safe. He repaired a Beetle that our local Greenpeace candidate used to keep her plants in. He thought it was a small, sweet, cheap, red car.

"Dad won't throw away anything he can fix, so this was a challenge. Although I couldn't talk to friends above the noisy engine, I used to like tootling around in it. Then I started worrying it would break down. I was given 'Lady B' after university, and it lasted six months. Dad still insists he can fix it, but I need a reliable car for work. As long as it's not a Metro, a car's about getting from A to B."

But her father, 63-year-old Arthur Leyland, retired, insists: "People might think I'm an old fogey who likes getting his hands dirty rather than putting them in his pocket, but I've made something that's reliable and not a danger on the roads. Beetles suit young people. They're good, economical run-arounds, and that's what Briony's been doing."

Gilly Hay, 23, a law student at Guildford: "Dad bought me a very cheap orange Fiesta to drive from Surbiton to college. Friends call it 'the rattling satsuma'. The seats don't recline, the mirrors don't match, and the aerial is a coat hanger. I get no enjoyment driving it, and won't use it at night.

"I'll sell it for scrap when I leave college. I would have waited to get something better, but I'd rather drive than take the train. We aren't a flashy car family. Dad's functional, and I'm going to end up the same way. I prefer a car with character, and wouldn't feel comfortable in the VW Golf brigade."

According to her father, Peter Hay, a 55-year-old factory owner: "You always remember your first car. The Fiesta's a nice, nippy, little car that suits Gilly. I doubt she'd have a car if she lived in London, but it's more economical than train tickets. If money hadn't been a concern, Gilly could have had the model of her choice, but I know she's not the sports-car type. Instead, I bought her a battery-charger for Christmas."

Lucy James, 22, a conference administrator: "I was 17 and still at boarding school when dad bought me a Mercedes 230CE. We argued about his choice, but dad wanted me to have a sturdy automatic. I wanted an old car with character, but it was a Mercedes or nothing.

"At weekends, I'd pick it up from home to take friends to the pub. I'd drive past school masters, disguised in sunglasses and a head scarf. Everyone loved that car. It was amazing to drive, but I never really felt comfortable in it.

"Before I went to university, I convinced dad it would get trashed in Manchester. Since then, I've had two Golfs. Dad's wild about cars, but I'm not that interested. I'd prefer to spend money on travel."

Lucy's 58-year-old father, Anthony James, a retired garage owner, wanted her to have the safest car possible. "I wasn't going to lose the only child I had. But for a student to have a Mercedes, that would be asking for trouble."

Michelle Haeems, 23, a law student at Kingston: "Because of dad's interest in cars, I love them. They're his favourite surprise gift. He gave me a black Morris convertible when I was 17. It suited me at the time because I was a rebel.

"I trusted his taste until he bought me a disgusting white Golf. I refused to wash it, so dad bought my dream car, a black Mercedes 190E. I remember telling him it was the car I wanted to have when I was 40, and I got it at 18. But the guilt was worth it.

"Most people assumed I was married, or driving my parents' Mercedes. I was embarrassed at first, but nobody should judge you by your car. I loved driving it, and ran it into the ground. Now, I've got a red MX5, which attracts nasty looks from women."

Her father, Ralph Haeems, a 54-year-old solicitor, says he bought the car because he was concerned about Michelle's safety. "If she continues to be as responsible, why wouldn't I keep buying her cars? The MX5 suits her," he says. "It's fun."

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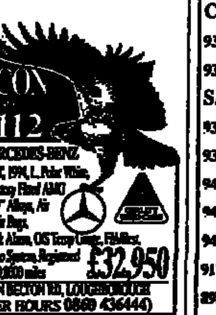

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Sales of 'nearly new' vehicles are gaining momentum. **Vaughan Freeman** offers a guide to the best deals around

Buy a used car: the time to find bargains has never been better

The January sales are not just about scrummages at the Harrods crockery counter and round-the-block queues for give-away TVs. For the canny used-car buyer, the next few weeks are the ideal time to go shopping.

January is when manufacturers flood the forecourts with their new models, backed by piles of financial incentives and give-aways, and buyers respond by part-exchanging their used vehicles, which dealers must resell.

Sue Robinson of the Retail Motor Industry Federation, representing 12,000 dealers, says: "Remember that used cars will be in plentiful supply at this time of year as motorists trade in their older vehicles in part exchange for the latest models.

"More models in the market mean keener prices as well as greater choice. Used-car buyers will find shopping now very much to their advantage."

Andrew Wilkinson, editorial director of the CAP Nationwide Black Book car-price guide, says: "This weekend, now that dealers are back from their holidays in Bermuda, is when the car sales trade starts to take off again.

"The December blues have gone, and now there are quite a few L-registered and nearly new cars around at reasonable prices."

Specifically, says Mr Wilkinson, a shortage of used executive Granada and Mercedes-sized cars, particularly if in good condition with low mileage, means any motorist currently running such a car and wishing to trade it in against something newer is in a strong position.

Those seeking a four-wheel-drive vehicle should look for one of the smaller, "sweetheart" off-roaders, such as the Suzuki Vitara. Prices for such short-wheel-base cars are under pressure. The advice from experts is to avoid bigger off-roaders such as the Mitsubishi Shogun and Range Rover, whose used prices are holding up well.

The search by private buyers, many of whom now perceive a recent used car as their ideal buy, will not be just a New Year and spring trend, say analysts.

A bias towards buying nearly new cars gained momentum last year as many motorists studiously avoided the new-car showrooms, instead taking care to seek out used, low-mileage cars. Dealers expect little change in 1995.

Mr Wilkinson says: "The problem began last summer. When we got to May and June, everybody was feeling better about the economy, and then suddenly every other news report was about rising interest rates. As a result, 'retail man' headed for the hills.

"Now there is still something going on, some underlying feeling along the lines that if you have got money, keep hold of it, and that if you must buy a car, get the best possible deal you can."

Which, he says, means that used-car sales will continue to rise. There will have to be a full return of retail confidence before motorists consider buying new again in the sort of numbers last seen in 1989, when 2.3 million new cars were sold.

Last year, new car sales reached 1.91 million and forecasts for the new car market this year hover between 1.95 and 2.0 million — about the level initially forecast for 1994 before interest fell off in a big way, ending with December's new cars sales below the level of 1993.

Banishing the smell of burning rubber

THE distress of a puncture could be wafted away by the scent of roses if an intriguing invention by Britain's oldest tyre company catches on (Kevin Eason writes).

The motor industry is turning its attention to smells that regularly assault the nostrils of drivers and passengers, from petrol fumes to rubber.

Peter Chapman, a chemist at the Fort Dunlop plant in Birmingham, has impregnated tyres with a scent developed from the oil of 50 pressed roses. The idea is that the impregnated tyre will sit in its usual storage space in the boot, with its pleasant smell wafting into the passenger cabin.

Christine Arundell, spokeswomen for SP Tyres, which holds the Dunlop name, said: "Motorists are probably unaware that some of the unpleasant smells in the cabin actually come from the spare wheel.

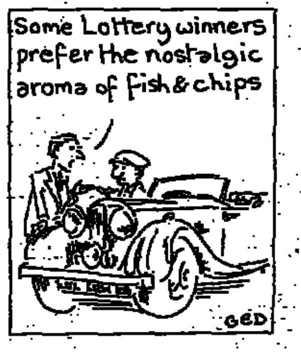
"The problem is that additives can weaken the compound of the tyre, but Peter Chapman has overcome that, so that tyres can now have any fragrance."

The tyre is being demonstrated to manufacturers, who can pick any fragrance to suit their image: leather for Jaguar, for example, or Chanel for Renault.

Dunlop says the premium on the price of a "smelly" tyre will probably be about £1.

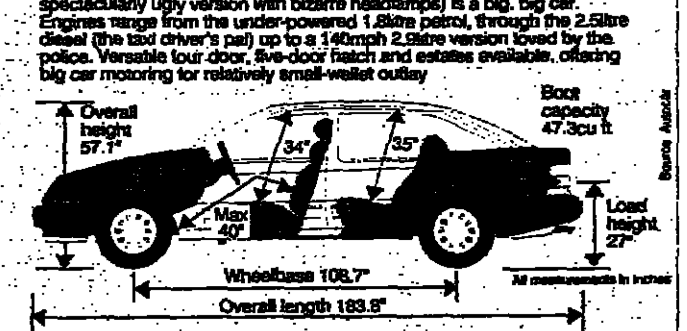
Meanwhile Total, the French oil company, has been testing vanilla-scented fuel, advertising it with scratch-and-sniff inserts in women's magazines. Half of French customers prefer it, but there are no signs that it will become widespread.

Some Lottery winners prefer the nostalgic aroma of fish & chips



USED CAR BRIEF

FORD GRANADA:
Introduced in 1985, the more rounded Granada (soon to be replaced by a spectacularly ugly version with bizarre headlamps) is a big, big car. Engines range from the under-powered 1.8litre petrol, through the 2.5litre diesel (the taxi driver's pal) up to a 140mph 2.9litre version loved by the police. Versatile four door, five-door hatch and estates available, offering big car motoring for relatively small-wallet outlay



GOOD NEWS: The most secure and hard-to-steal car on the market according to a recent Consumers' Association Which? magazine report. Very solidly built, the diesel versions will cover 150,000 miles and more without worries. Bags of room for long-legged occupants and their luggage.

BAD NEWS: Ford's Granada suffers a severe slippers-and-cardigan image. Like all big cars, fuel consumption is a problem (expect 25mpg for two litre models) but Granadas, like many executive cars bought used, can be had for a fraction of the price when new only three or four years later, with somebody else having suffered the stone-dropping depreciation. However, executive class limousine ranking can mean high insurance premiums.

INSURANCE: Cover from AA Insurance (0800 444777) on a 1989 Granada 2.0 LX, will cost a 22-year old male actor living in Brixton, south London, with one speeding conviction, a huge £3,747 a year fully comprehensive, while a 22-year old actress living in the same area will pay £3,047. A 55year-old (male or female) living in Winchester with 60per cent no claims will pay £192 a year

LOOK FOR: The estate models are cavernous—many plumbers use them instead of vans. The diesel engine is an excellent caravan puller. Scorpios with leather seats and air conditioning are very comfortable while 24-valve models are very fast. Search out cars with goodies like electric windows & leather. High mileage models may suffer saggy, baggy interiors, watch for tired two-litre engines, and bodged exterior repairs

SAFETY RATING: Big is best in the safety stakes and the Granada offers better than average protection in the event of a crash according to Government statistics compiled from police crash figures

PRICE RANGE: Expect to pay around £3,000 for a 1989 two-litre petrol engine five-door LX model on 50,000 miles, £6,500 for a 1991 2.9i Ghia five door on 35,000 miles and up to [illegible] for a 1991 turbo diesel on 30,000 miles.

REPLACEMENT PARTS (prices include VAT): Clutch assembly, £100; exhaust, £195; Rear shock absorber, £40; Front brakepads, £40; Alternator (exchange), £125; Starter motor (exchange), £125; Tyre, £50 to £70

AVOID: Former police cars may have been well maintained but will have notched inter-galactic mileages. Smaller engined models like the 1.8litre (discontinued in 1987) feel underpowered due to car's size, while the four-wheel drive models also proved unpopular

OVERALL: In the charisma stakes the Granada is left in the dust by other big executive models from the likes of BMW and Audi, but second-hand they are much cheaper to buy, and to run. If roominess, big-car comfort and robust build are a priority, but fuel economy and nippiness in traffic aren't, a Granada could be the answer.

50 BESTSELLING USED CARS

MODEL	PRICE Dec 94	Jan-95	% Chge
Ford Mondeo 1.8 LX 5dr HB	9925	10200	2.82
Ford New Escort 1.6i LX 5dr HB	8750	9025	3.27
Vauxhall New Cavalier 1.8i LS HB	9095	9450	3.80
Vauxhall New Astra 1.4i LS (HT) 5dr HB	8295	8575	3.42
Rover 214SLi 5dr HB	9395	9700	3.34
Ford New Fiesta 1.1 LX 5dr HB	6750	6975	3.39
Peugeot 405 1.8 GLi 4dr S	8195	8425	2.82
Vauxhall Corsa 1.2 LS 3dr HB	6495	6775	4.27
Peugeot 306 1.4 XL 5dr HB	8175	8750	7.14
Rover 414 SLi 4dr S	9275	9625	3.70
Rover Metro 1.1S 5dr HB	6125	6450	5.24
Citroen Xantia 1.8i LX 5dr HB	10350	10650	2.82
Rover 620 Si 4dr S	12695	13095	3.06
Renault Clio 1.2 RL Prima 3dr HB	5995	6025	0.48
Volkswagen Golf 1.4 CL 5dr HB	8595	8850	2.98
Nissan Primera 1.6i LX 5dr HB	8825	9175	3.93
Nissan Micra 1.0 L 5dr HB	6095	6295	3.24
Renault Laguna 1.8 RN 5dr HB	10350	10100	-2.47
Peugeot 106 1.1 XR 3dr HB	6495	6600	1.80
Renault 19 1.4 RL Prima 5dr HB	7195	7395	2.82
Rover New 820 SI 4dr S	13950	14350	2.90
Vauxhall Omega 2.0i CD 4dr S auto	17795	17950	0.92
Citroen ZX 1.4 Avantage 5dr HB	7425	7800	5.14
Toyota New Carina GLi 5dr HB	11095	11200	1.02
Ford Granada 2.0i Ghia 5dr HB auto	13750	13975	1.67
Alfa Romeo 164 2.0i 4dr	13450	13750	2.23
Citroen ZX 104 Avantage 5dr	7426	7750	4.37
Ford Fiesta 1.4 Si 3dr	7750	7950	2.58
Fiat Punto 75 SX 5dr	7095	7095	—
Honda Accord 2.0i LS 4dr	13495	13795	2.22
Jaguar 4.0S 4dr auto	28250	28250	—
Lexus LS400	36750	37500	2.04
Mazda MX-5 2dr	14250	14650	2.80
Mitsubishi Shogun 3.5 V6 5dr	28250	29000	2.65
Nissan Sunny 1.4 LX 5dr	7650	7850	2.61
Peugeot 605 SLi 4dr	11995	12295	2.50
Proton Persona 1.6 SEi	9175	9575	4.35
Renault Clio 1.2 RL Prima 5dr	6350	6395	0.70
Rover 820 Si 4dr	13950	14295	2.47
Saab 9000 CSi 5dr	16650	16495	-0.90
Seat Ibiza 1.4 GLX 5dr	7575	7575	—
Suzuki Vitara JLX Soft top 2dr	9495	9695	2.10
Toyota Corolla 1.3 GLi 5dr	10150	10295	1.42
Toyota MR2 GT	17150	17595	2.59
Vauxhall Calibra 2.0i 16V	14295	14950	4.58
Volvo 440 1.8Li 4dr	8450	8675	2.66
Volvo 850 20V GLT 4dr	14495	14850	2.50
Volkswagen Passat 2.0 GL 4dr	12850	13195	2.68
Audi 80 2.0E	12495	12550	0.04
Land Rover Discovery TDi 5dr	20250	20500	1.23
Mercedes Benz C180 Classic 4dr	17995	17550	-2.47

HB = hatchback S = saloon Price changes based on L-reg, low mileage cars. Figures supplied by CAP Nationwide Motor Research.

PRICES of used cars hardened over Christmas with demand for "nearly news" giving a strong showing into the new year (Kevin Eason writes).

Clever buyers have worked out that K and L-plate ex-rental and company cars have all the specifications of new cars, but with low mileage and a better price. That is bad news for carmakers, who are going to have to combine big incentives with new stock to keep sales moving.

Diesels, after showing strong prices for some time, now look as though they are going to come in at the bargain basement end over the next few months.

Initial demand, which had carmakers pushing them out as quickly as possible, has been satisfied. The large numbers still sitting on forecourts have since dampened prices. This is a good time to buy if you are looking for an economical runabout.

Beware high-mileage vehicles though, which could be as dodgy as they are cheap. Zero in instead on low-mileage, ex-company fleet models, which could turn out to be real bargains.

LEFT HAND DRIVE

190E 2.6 Speed LHD 1989 Black. Black Leather. A/C. ASD. Alloys. 49,000mls. FSH. £9,995. 0494 681158.

MERCEDES 250 E auto. 1992. Blue/Grey cloth. A/C. alloys. R/C. FSH. 65k miles. £13,800 Cambridge: 0223 277702

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LS400 92J Boston Green Met. Cream Lthr. 26,000m. £26,995 FSH. Lancaster 081 983 4444

LS400 91J Met Blue all usual lux extras 34k FSH mint £24,995 021-643 1915/ 0860 535907.1

LS 400 1994 M. Oxford blue. 12,800 miles. FSH. 1 owner. £33,995. Tel: 081 5317105 T

LS400 94M. Oxford Blue, blue leather. 5,000 miles. 1 owner. FSH. As new. £35,495. Tel: 061-427 1108 / 0836 605178.1

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762 ABK	48 BSG	593 DCG	EU 4263	33 GOT	JEN 61	LFS 687	MVF 763	PAM 40C	294 RDV	TAK 6
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591 ABY	209 BTH	DCS 17	681 EVO	GTP 608	JG 6302	LGW 780	MWA 809	6 PAM	REJ 21	23 TBF
7 AE	813 BTP	DCS 139	EYN 7	658 GUP	JJ 277	785 LHK	MWU 25	PAP 930	RFL 44	TBJ 785
7 AEW	BW 2	2327 DD	FBF 964	643 GVO	JJV 329	LHW 13	4254 MY	PBA 544	RHH 47	TCS 493
328 AFJ	BWE 487	796 DDE	301 FBL	GWC 537	JFN 135	509 LJ	1923 N	PCB 268	972 RHN	TDG 64
AG 90	59 BWO	DES 29	FEY 407	GWV 27	30 JM	LJJ 849	3653 NA	PDM 937	RHR 300	TDT 927
552 AHP	70 BWV	826 DFD	55 FF	500 HAB	JM 6454	39 LPL	NBE 315	PEF 840	18 RJ	11 TED
810 AJU	683 BY	782 DFK	281 FFW	HBA 572	47 JOB	LLH 632	NBP 591	PEG 39	RL 7648	TES 2
908 AKT	BYM 310	DGV 86	969 FGC	93 HBC	543 JOE	1 LND	NCT 8	4 PEG	22 RM	TJA 648
1 ALN	679 CBD	DHG 54	FGR 705	HBK 46	682 JON	LNN 2	386 NDE	PEG 35	RND 5	TJH 794
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ANG 384	5494 CD	DJ 9375	581 FJF	890 HCR	JRN 41	152 LPO	269 NE	6118 PF	RNT 255	TJV 675
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APW 902	CFS 20	191 DNG	575 FNP	529 HFK	50 JY	33 LVO	29 NHJ	PGV 365	ROO 738	859 TRB
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908 AVF	CHG 66	12 DNN	646 FPH	HHD 447	KCO 641	LY 5	NHY 900	PKG 666	482 RPD	TSN 17
343 AVK	679 CHO	885 DNR	FR 17	HHE 899	KCT 10	526 MAF	NJN 12	190 PKM	RPL 431	TT 68
800 AWK	383 CJO	196 DON	976 FRO	879 HHY	24 KD	MAV 361	NJT 847	PKU 107	20 RRA	856 TTE
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BBE 212	961 CKL	953 DRK	13 FRT	HJN 994	641 KDV	MBE 451	NKR 194	PNJ 301	3 RS	TYB 372
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New law reins in British bikers

By Ronald Faux

NEW rules for the training and testing of motorcyclists, issued by the European Union, have been welcomed in Britain.

From July next year, learner riders throughout Europe aged between 17 and 21 will follow a course of training designed to take them in safe stages to a full licence.

Basic training in Britain at one of the 1,056 centres will remain a compulsory starting point for all riders. A provisional licence then allows use of machines of no more than 12 bhp for two years within which riders are advised to take additional training as preparation for the qualifying test. After passing, they will then be limited to riding machines of no more than 33 bhp for a further two years.

An important concession, agreed by the EU after pressure from Britain, allows new riders above the age of 21 a "mature entry" into motorcycling. After the compulsory training course riders will be allowed to take further training on a large machine but only in the company of an instructor. After training to test standards, learners may then take the test on machines of 47 bhp or more. The mature rider who passes may then ride a machine of any size.

Kevin Kelly, director of the Motorcycle Rider Training Association, described the new rules as sensible. "The courses impress upon new riders the vulnerability of a motorcycle and the need for even greater vigilance on the road. Compulsory training has already had a good impact on the accident statistics with the number of casualties falling by 7 per cent at a time when motorcycle sales rose by 10 per cent."

ADRIAN BROOKES

A problem shared: Professor Cary Cooper, left, and Dr Malcolm Carruthers both say men have more difficulty controlling stress than women

Stress: the hidden killer on our roads

Tension can be as lethal as a collision, writes Vaughan Freeman

Stressed-out TV comic Alexei Sayle roars for the nation when he screams in fury at other drivers. But stress is no joke. A stressed motorist has more accidents than calmer drivers, suffers higher blood pressure, a higher heart-rate and has more furry blood vessels.

Sayle, who presented the BBC television series *Drive* last year, admits he has his own temper problems at the wheel: "Just doing the programme has made my own driving calmer. I'm a terrible flasher and hooter — I'm always retaliating for someone cutting me up."

Dr Malcolm Carruthers, who treats and lectures on stress, says it probably kills as many drivers as accidents. Tensions of the road, he explains, release blood noradrenaline: "This is a kick-drive hormone originally to help cope with fighting sabre-tooth tigers and that sort of thing". The hormone raises the heart rate and blood pressure, releases blood fats, and makes drivers competitive. Unless the fats are burned off (difficult sitting in a car), they damage the heart and fur arteries.

Dr Carruthers believes the car is a cross between an "ego chariot" and a piece of personal territory, like a bedroom on wheels, which drivers defend when they feel threatened, heightening stress.

"Women, very generally, tend to react differently, and have a higher anxiety threshold. This contributes to the fact that women are on the whole more cautious as drivers, and men are more competitive."

Alexei Sayle: admits to temper tantrums

Maureen Cooper of Wembley, north London, knows about stress behind the wheel. In the 1960s she was one of just 12 women police officers driving MGB sports patrol cars, and is now an examiner with the Institute of Advanced Motorists. She says drivers need to think ahead to ease pressure and relieve stress: "What concerns us all is getting from A to B on time. I remember as a young mother having to be at the school by 3.30pm to pick up my children, Anne and Aaron. I always had a back-up, having arranged with the school to look after them if I didn't get there on time and with a friend to collect them.

"That was before the days of the mobile telephone, which can be a great reliever of stress. Stress is connected with not being 100 per cent confident in your car, and staring at the petrol gauge needle wondering if you'll make it."

Professor Cary Cooper, a stress psychologist at Manchester University Institute of Science and Technology, says: "Pressure can stimulate, but when pressure exceeds the individual's ability to cope you show symptoms of stress and that's when you have difficulty concentrating, in making decisions."

He believes his wife, Rachel, is a calmer, better-organised driver than he is. "Rachel has a different approach to driving. If we are going to see friends, are late and she is driving, she will not rush because she knows the world is not going to come to an end.

And if she is going to a business appointment and thinks there'll be delays she will phone ahead and allow more time for the journey.

"Women, whether they are dentists, doctors or drivers, use a range of strategies to cope. Men rarely use any."

Ten tips to beat stress:

☐ Be confident your car is mechanically sound, with enough petrol to make the trip.

☐ Drive smoothly, thinking ahead to anticipate trouble.

☐ Plan long journeys carefully and allow plenty of time. Do not try to travel too far in one day.

☐ Up-to-date maps and careful route planning save time behind the wheel.

☐ Take breaks every two hours for a stretch and a snack — though avoid caffeine as it raises stress.

☐ Pull over to phone ahead if you think you might be late.

☐ Work out a technique to relax, whether it is meditation, chanting, shouting, or singing along with the radio.

☐ Tape a picture of a family member or loved one to the dashboard. A survey of 1,200 drivers in Austria found this reduced aggression, with 17 per cent fewer accidents.

☐ On family outings with a partner, take turns driving.

☐ Take plenty to entertain children. The AA sells motoring activity packs for car-bound children.

DR DASHBOARD

How to park your roadster

Q **Why is parking so difficult? How do you know a space is big enough?**

A You need the length of the car plus half again. When parking with the passenger door to the kerb, pull level with the car you will be behind. Reverse, looking between the front seats, and turn the wheel sharply left. As your car's front door passes the leading vehicle, straighten up. As the nose passes the rear bumper, turn the wheels sharply right, then straighten up.

Q **Should you always reverse?**

A The front wheels always turn more tightly than the trailing rear wheels, so it is best to point the back of the car first.

Q **What is the easiest car to park?**

A The smaller the better. Hatchbacks are simple because there is no guesswork wondering where the boot stops and the car behind begins. Surprisingly, large cars can be easy because the boot and bonnet are visible.

Q **And the most difficult?**

A Off-roaders are high so the driver looks through rear windows a foot above the roof of the car behind. They also have wide turning circles.

Q **Are there any parking aids?**

A Power-steering is a boon, taking the effort out of turning the wheels. Use the wing mirrors.

Q **Where should you park?**

A Studies in Germany show 80 per cent of motorists in city centres not going anywhere ... just looking for somewhere to dump the car, so finding a space could be tricky unless you go to a side street a mile away and then take a bracing 20-minute walk into the shopping centre

Q **Does that make a multi-storey a better bet than the street?**

A Multi-storeys have a reputation for theft but it will be safe if you find one that is well lit and has security guards. Park under a light, keep away from doorways and shadows, park close to the pay desk. Reverse into your space to make a quick getaway if followed and do not put bags in first — get in with them, lock the doors and then arrange parcels.

Q **So is the street too much trouble?**

A Could be unless you are aware of local parking regulations. Be prepared for meters or pre-paid spots and look out for clamping crews otherwise an hour's parking could cost as much as £200 when you get the car from the police pound.

Q **Are there any other pitfalls?**

A Avoid hazards such as deep puddles which could hide potholes or glass, don't park under lime trees or bridges where birds are active as both could ruin paintwork. And remember where you left it. John Prescott, Labour's deputy leader, had his Jaguar towed away last week from a spot on a meter just 200 yards from where he thought he had parked.

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92J Mulsanne S Georgian Lt Grey, Sports Seats, 17,500 miles, Immaculate £57,950
91J Spirit II Balmoral/Spruce, FSH, 31,000 miles, Immaculate Condition £54,950
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هكذا من الأصل

Secrets of the top ten sellers

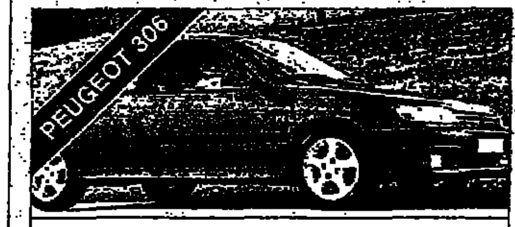
Kevin Eason takes a quizzical look at the motor industry's hit parade, and gives each car his own rating

TOP TEN CARS

Sales: 127,144; **Top colour:** blue; **Prices:** £11,900 to £21,240.
Source: made in Belgium.
Deals: low rate finance. Negotiate for discounts, free mobile phone

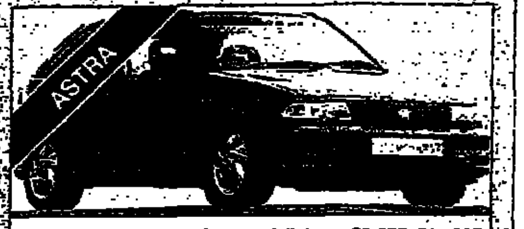
Sales: 123,723; **Top colour:** red; **Prices:** £7,250 to £10,785.
Source: made in Britain
Deals: 0% finance, free mobile phone. Negotiate for discounts

Sales: 100,115 **Top colour:** red; **Prices:** £10,300 to £18,615
Source: Made in Britain **Deals:** free mobile phone. Finance worth up to £1,000. Discounts probably available all year



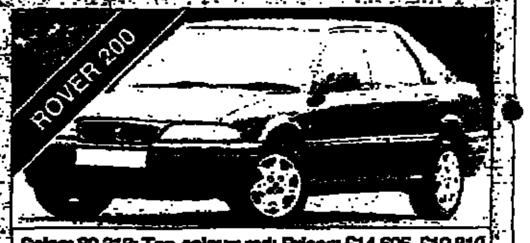
Sales: 48,802; **Top colour:** red;
Prices: £9,540-£15,990 **Source:** made in Britain
Deals: finance package with 4.9% low rate interest

Sales:144,089; **Top colour:** red; **Prices:** £9,495–£26,345 **Source:** made in Britain
Deals: low rate finance, £500 off some models. One-off low price this month for 1.3 Azura of £7,995, free mobile phone. Discounts probably available as dealers run out of stock before introduction of new model in February



Sales: 98,098. **Top colour:** red; **Prices:** £9,695–£14,025
Source: made in Britain **Deals:** year's free insurance, mobile phone. Finance worth up to £1,000 discount

Sales: 49,337; **Top colour:** red;
Prices: £6,666–£13,925 **Source:** made in France
Deals: 0% finance and some specials at dealers



Sales: 80,313; **Top colour:** red; **Prices:** £14,605–£19,810
Source: made in Britain **Deals:** discounts likely to be available at dealers with new version due soon

Sales: 58,865; **Top colour:** red;
Prices: £6,495–£10,530 **Source:** made in Britain
Deals: year's free insurance. Renamed Rover 100

Sales: 78,739; **Top colour:** red; **Prices:** £6,895–£11,430
Source: made in Spain **Deals:** subsidised finance worth discounts of hundred pounds, free mobile phone

Ten car models accounted for 50 per cent of all sales — nearly a million — in Britain last year.

Yet the bestsellers that populate drives the length of the country are not the eye-catching, whizz-bang cars of our dreams. They are largely dowdy, outdated and dull.

In the age of pre-packaged food and drink, identikit high streets and designer clothes worn like uniforms by millions, our roads are full of metallic clones, each car looking little different from the next.

The tried and trusted are bought again and again for one main reason: big carmakers drive the marketplace by selling huge numbers of cars to fleet buyers — numbers that dominate the shape, style and even colour of new models.

Company cars accounted for 45 per cent of the 1.91 million new car sales last year, but that is not the whole story. Only sales made to fleets of 25 cars or more are counted as "company" purchases. Tens of thousands of cars sold to smaller companies or to the self-employed (such as doctors, solicitors, farmers) are listed as private buys though they may be bought with company cheques.

The biggest company buyers get discounts of 30 per cent and more to take hundreds of cars straight from the assembly line. They bulk-buy by specification and colour — no wonder then that the most popular colour in Britain is red and that standard L and LX cars litter the bestseller charts.

When private buyers do venture out, they go to the showroom and repair services nearest at hand. Big companies such as Ford, which has more than 900 sales points, are inevitably the biggest winners.

Britain's big three car companies — Ford, Vauxhall and Rover — dominate the sales charts, taking eight of the ten places on the bestseller list for 1994. Peugeot's 306, made in Britain, scrapes in, but surprisingly there is no room for Nissan, the nation's fourth-biggest manufacturer, whose Micra makes 13th place.

In fact, Renault's Clio — backed by one of the biggest television advertising campaigns — is the only model not backed by substantial fleet deals to have broken through.

Are Britain's top cars worthy of their exalted position? *The Times* put them to the test.

1. FORD ESCORT
Arriving next month in its third — and much-needed — revamp. The Escort has led the charts for nine of the past ten years and thousands of buyers will swear by its reliability and economy. The current version, however, missed the mark at its launch five years ago, with rough-and-ready engines and styling so bland it was called the John Major of motoring. The Escort remains on top because of its familiarity, Ford's dealer network and running costs that are difficult to rival.

Performance score: only three marks out of ten.

2: FORD MONDEO
This is probably the best of the top ten. Styling is unexciting, but its handling and performance, plus good interior space and layout, make it the class leader by a mile. Made in Belgium but using plenty of British components, the Mondeo is not only the sales reps' best friend, offering a comfortable, smooth ride, but also makes an excellent family car allied to Ford's low running costs and an excellent safety and security package.
Score: eight.

3: FORD FIESTA
Long in the tooth now — and it shows. Ford has upgraded the Fiesta with a list of high-spec items, including better safety features and new security systems, although not on all models. Like the Escort, customers seem to prefer the devil they know. The Fiesta is outgunned by a series of rivals in the small-car class, however, and desperately needs freshening, which should happen in October this year.
Score: three.

4: VAUXHALL CAVALIER
A remarkable survival story for one of the oldest cars in its class, but Vauxhall has been clever with upgrades, notably adding airbags and anti-lock brakes ahead of competitors. Meanwhile, the integrity of the car remains as a roomy, reliable performer which keeps companies and private buyers happy. Handling and performance is not that far away from newer rivals. A new version due at the end of the year should keep Ford on its toes.
Score: five.

5: VAUXHALL ASTRA
Not the Escort-beater Vauxhall had hoped for and now lagging behind the best of the rest. New engines have pepped up the range recently and the interior is roomy and well laid-out. Vauxhall's security systems are also award-winners. Nevertheless, the handling is not sparkling and the bigger-engined cars tend to be raucous and noisy, particularly at speed. Also being freshened by Vauxhall later this year.
Score: five.

6: ROVER 200
The 200 was a result of Rover's collaboration with Honda, and it shows. The least Rovery model in the range these days and due for a change this year. Still good value and a better drive than most, in spite of the fact that it has been around for some time. Rover's own 1.4-litre K-series engine is excellent, offering good economy for reasonable performance, while the 1.6-litre Honda is punchy, although a bit noisy.
Score: five.

7: VAUXHALL CORSA
The car that thousands will learn to drive in now that BSM is using the Corsa as its standard model. But cute looks do not salvage a pretty ordinary driving package of lacklustre performance and handling. The down-range models also lack the security systems of Vauxhall's bigger cars, vital in these days of car crime. The Corsa is close to good but has not got quite enough of everything to make it a world-beater.
Score: six.

8: ROVER METRO
Fifteen years in production, still in the top ten … and surprisingly, not a bad little motor for the money. The dated design clearly shows now against rivals, but the Metro has benefited over the years from loyal customers who from next month can choose the revamped Rover 100, the new badge which brings the car into line with the rest of the Rover range. Engines good, interior no prize-winner though.
Score: four.

9: RENAULT CLIO
More Fiesta than Metro-sized, which means more room than the Rover. Looks good and handles wonderfully well, underlining the feeling that Renault is becoming a force to be reckoned with again. The small-engined models are uninteresting but the range is reasonably well equipped, although slightly more expensive than rivals. However, in this case, style outweighs the car's other deficiencies.
Score: six.

10: PEUGEOT 306
Best of the supermini bunch. Interior space in the Coventry-built 306 is enormous, driving position and comfort are just right, and its all-round performance easily betters its competitors in the top ten. Many complained that the 306 could never take the place of the renowned 205 but it has proved stylish and user-friendly enough to move quite happily into position as successor.
Score: eight.

THE COST OF BRITAIN'S BESTSELLING NEW CARS

	£		£
SALOONS		**DIESEL**	
BMW 318i	16,460	Citroen Xantia TDLX	13,390
Ford Mondeo 1.8i LX	12,445	Ford Mondeo TDLX	12,985
Peugeot 405 1.8 GLXi	12,760	Peugeot 306 XND	9,995
Rover 416 SLi	13,695	Peugeot 405 Style D	11,380
Vauxhall Cavalier 1.8i LS	12,300	Vauxhall Cavalier LSTD	13,075
HATCHBACKS		**COUPES AND CONVERTIBLES**	
Ford Escort 1.6i LX	11,785	Audi Coupe 2.0E	16,798
Ford Fiesta 1.1 LX	8,570	BMW 320i Coupe	20,125
Ford Mondeo 1.8i LX	12,445	Honda Prelude 2.0i	16,995
Vauxhall Cavalier 1.8i LS	12,450	Rover 220 Coupe	18,295
Vauxhall Corsa 1.2 LS	7,750	Vauxhall Calibra 2.0i 16v	17,635
ESTATES		**SPORTS CARS**	
Ford Escort 1.4 L	11,340	Ford Probe 2.0 16v	16,320
Ford Mondeo 1.8i LX	13,490	Honda CRX VTi	16,995
Peugeot 1.8 GLXi	13,805	Mazda MX-5	14,495
Vauxhall Astra 1.4 Merit	10,845	Toyota Celica GT	20,935
Volvo 850 2.0 GLT	20,615	Toyota MR2 GT	19,661
OFF-ROADERS		**MULTI-PURPOSE VEHICLES**	
Chrysler Jeep 4.0 Ltd SE	23,595	Mitsubishi Space Runner	14,109
Ford Maverick 2.4 GLX	18,200	Mitsubishi Space Wagon	15,799
Land Rover Discovery TDiS	21,875	Nissan Serena 2.0 SLX	15,995
Suzuki Vitara JLX	11,250	Renault Espace RT 2.0	18,550
Vauxhall Frontera 2.0 Sport	14,105	Toyota Previa GL	20,398

NEWS IN BRIEF

More motorways

Europe will be crossed by nearly 52,000 miles of four-lane motorway within 20 years, the International Road Federation in Geneva predicts. It expects the current 36,250 miles of highway to be expanded by more than 50 per cent, with significant growth in a first tier of nations comprising France, Germany, Spain and Italy. Britain is in the second rank.

Ford in Poland

Ford is looking east, starting production of its Escort model in Poland. The company announced yesterday that its £35 million factory at Plonsk, about 40 miles from Warsaw, will make 30,000 vehicles a year, including Transit vans.

Land Rover record

Land Rover, probably Britain's most successful motor manufacturer at the moment, sold a record 12,000 vehicles, worth an estimated £480 million, in the United States last year, a leap over the 1993 total of just 4,700. The company hopes that sales will jump to 15,000 this year.

Daewoo reshuffle

All change at Daewoo, the Korean manufacturer new to Britain, even before the company starts selling cars here. Leslie Woodcock, the managing director, who launched Daewoo (pronounced Day-oh) in this country, has left, to be replaced by Sung-Kee Kim, the deputy managing director. The company will launch two small and medium cars, the Nexia and Espero, in the spring.

Allegro protest

Owners of the venerable Austin Allegro have been called to a protest meeting next Sunday at the Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon, Warwickshire, to fight a possible possession tax on cars being considered by the Government. Pre-1970 classic cars are likely to be exempt, but Allegro owners fear they will be taxed on cars off the road that are being restored.

Joint project

The new car from Mitsubishi and Volvo to be built jointly in Europe will be unveiled at the start of the Amsterdam Motor Show next weekend. The Nedcar project will produce the Mitsubishi MX, on sale in the autumn in the UK, and a replacement for Volvo's 400 series, not available here until the start of 1996. Both cars will be built on a single assembly line in the Netherlands.

Kevin Eason wraps up 100 years of motoring history with the answers to our formidable Christmas quiz

A week with a Volvo for one lucky winner

Dave Hope is the man who ended up with the book and the video after he struggled for hours with *The Times* Christmas motoring quiz.

Mr Hope, who lives in Uckfield, East Sussex, and drives a Rover Sterling, wins a week with a Volvo 850 after wrestling with our two dozen questions.

The chances of answering all the questions correctly were remote: even Mr Hope slipped up on a couple. Only one reader got everything right — but he or she forgot to send in an address.

Here are the answers:

When will the British motor industry celebrate its 100th anniversary?

The first cars — Daimlers — were produced in this country in 1896.

The world's best-selling car is the Volkswagen Beetle. Which famous name designed it?

Ferdinand Porsche came up with the design which has sold 27 million after Adolf Hitler instructed him to make a car (Wagen) for the people (Volks).

William Lyons founded Jaguar Cars but which creature's name did he use to start his business?

The young Lyons started in Blackpool making Swallow motorcycle sidecars.

What do the initials MG stand for?

Morris Garages, the private sideline owned by William Morris, whose manager, Cecil Kimber, started using the Oxford model to race.

Founding fathers: Charles Rolls, left, and Sir Henry Royce

Robert Bamford and Lionel Martin founded the Aston Martin sports car company in 1914. But who or what was the Aston in the title?

The pair were keen racers and the name came from the Aston Clinton hillclimb event where they had early success.

BMW produced its first car in 1928 but it was not a German design. What was it?

BMW started manufacturing Austin Sevens called the Dixi.

Emil Jellinek promised in 1901 to buy 36 German-made cars, but only if they were named after his daughter. What was her name?

Jellinek wanted to buy from Daimler-Benz. His daughter? Mercedes.

How did the Jeep get its name?

The Willys company sold the US Army its General Purpose vehicle — GP or "Jeep".

Which British car became a legend in the 1960s by winning the Monte Carlo rally outright three times?

The Mini Cooper.

In the film Pretty Woman, *Julia Roberts drives which famous British sports car?*

A Lotus Esprit.

Rolls-Royce celebrated a birthday in 1994. How many happy returns?

Ninety — and, as it turned out, a significant year, with BMW signed up to provide new engines.

Who holds the land speed record of 633mph, and what was his car called?

Richard Noble, with the Thrust in 1983.

The most infamous car company in Britain swallowed millions of pounds of taxpayers' money before going bust in 1982. What was it?

DeLorean. With its stainless-steel bodywork, the car was a museum piece almost before it was launched.

David Dunbar Buick founded the company that eventually became General Motors. Where was he born?

David Buick was a Scot.

Which was the first British car to sell a million?

The Morris Minor, designed by Sir Alec Issigonis.

Which carmaker invented the enamelled bathtub?

David Buick.

The mechanical sheep-shearer?

Herbert Austin.

And the silent bevelled gears used in the Titanic?

Richard Noble: speed king

Andre Citroën.

Which road did Chris Rea take in his hit album of 1989?

The Road to Hell.

Charles Rolls holds a famous distinction in the air. What is it?

He was the first man to fly both ways across the Channel.

At the wheel: a young Ferdinand Porsche, Beetle designer

List the seven oldest surviving motoring names.

The contenders are Daimler (1896), Peugeot (1889), Oldsmobile (1896), Fiat (1899), Tatra (1899), Renault (1899) and Benz (1886).

The AA was formed in 1905. What were its patrolmen employed to do?

Warn motorists of speed traps.

Gregory Peck and Audrey Hepburn found romance riding which bike in the 1953 film Roman Holiday?

A Vespa scooter.

Who was the American hero of the 1966 movie Grand Prix?

James Garner.

What, in the 1969 advert, was "the car you've always promised yourself"?

The Ford Capri, first and last of the big-selling coupés.

What nationality was Sir Alec Issigonis and what was his retirement gift?

Issigonis was Turkish. His gift was a No 10 Meccano set.

The two picture questions had many readers well and truly stumped. The first, from a new book, *Dashboards*, by David Holland (£24.99, Phaidon Press), was taken from the 1954 Aston Martin DB 2/4. The silhouettes were, from left to right: the Aston Martin DB7, Vauxhall Cavalier, the late-lamented Triumph TR7 and the Ford Mondeo.

Andrew Pierce meets Michael Dobbs, author and unrepentant chauvinist

'I hate any car being driven by a woman trying to park'

Francis Urquhart is back. The *ruthless* Prime Minister who has seen off a journalist and a king in his quest to stay in power returns next week to our bookshelves.

Michael Dobbs, the creator of Urquhart, has produced another instalment in the life of the politician played on television by Ian Richardson. After *House of Cards* and *To Play the King* comes the long-awaited third tome: *The Final Cut*, published on Tuesday by HarperCollins.

Dobbs, already working on the plot of his next book, was once chief of staff at Conservative Central Office — though he claims his aversion to women drivers has nothing to do with Baroness Thatcher.

How did you learn to drive?

With my younger sister. We had the same instructor and took our tests on the same day. She passed. I didn't. I threw my driving gloves away and did not take my test for a further two years. My prejudice against women drivers has been resolute ever since.

What was your first car?

A VW Beetle when I lived in Boston, Massachusetts. It had 248,000 miles on the clock when I sold it. It was on its second engine. In the winter I could park it on snowdrifts and because it was air-cooled it always started first time. When I sold it, it was still purring like a contented tiger.

What car do you drive now?

I have two. A Mercedes 300TE 4-Matic estate car, which is the workhorse. It has 130,000 miles on the clock. It carries the two kids, two dogs and everything else through bogs and up mountains. I also drive a Bentley S-1. It's for showing off when I pick up journalists at the station.

Do you enjoy driving?

Not since they invented the car telephone. It never stops ringing. It's normally journalists and always at the wrong moment.

What is your dream car?

My Bentley. As a schoolboy in Hertford I ran a car-cleaning business at a local scrap metal dealer. I had to look after an S-1. In the middle of winter, as my fingers froze, I promised myself that one day such a car would be mine.

Which is your most hated car?

Any which is being driven by a woman trying to park or turn right. Some call it pure male prejudice. I call it practical male experience.

What is your worst car habit?

Being pompous about women drivers, whether like politicians they are in the back seat or in the front seat.

Mark of success: Michael Dobbs with his Bentley S-1

What infuriates you most about other drivers?

Those who refuse to stop at zebra crossings. I try to give them a good kick up the chromiums when they push past.

What is the most unusual thing you've done in your car?

I conceived the plot for my next Francis Urquhart book, *The Final Cut*. I was on the A303 passing by Stonehenge. There was no symbolic message from the rocks. It's merely my way home to my house in the West Country. I have a dictation machine which I carry with me and dictated the plot straight on to it.

How many points have you got?

The only points I have ever had were for speeding at 1.27am on the M1 driving back from Birmingham in my new Jaguar. I had had the car for only one week and wanted to see whether it lived up to its advertisement.

Most embarrassing moment in the car?

Norman Tebbit was asleep in the back seat when I saw the blue light flashing on the M1. I was bringing him back from a speaking engagement. Norman woke up. The policeman saw him and said: "Good evening Mr Tebbit. I have started so I have got to finish."

If you were Secretary of State for Transport, what is the first thing you would do?

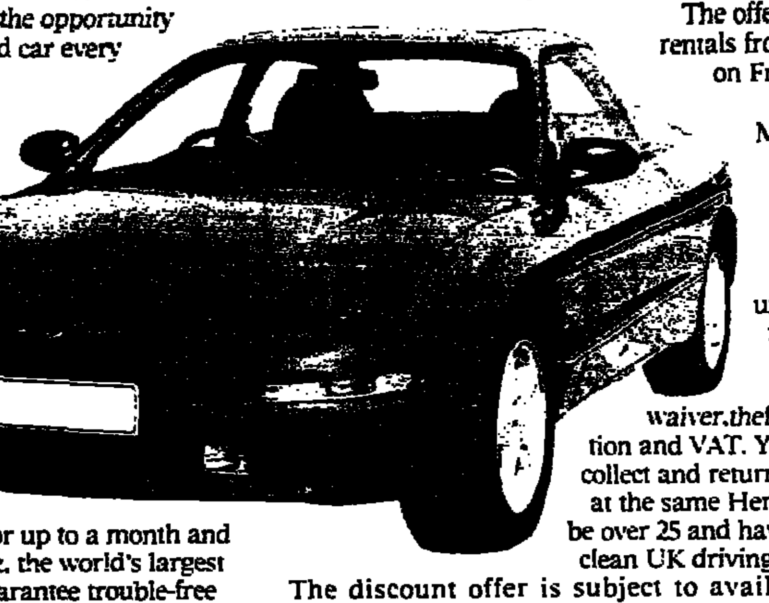
Request a transfer!

What is your favourite/most hated car advert?

I never look at car ads. I intend to drive my Mercedes into the ground and the Bentley will probably outlast me.

COMPETITION

Drive 12 new cars this year



To celebrate the launch of *Car 95*, Hertz and *The Times* offer readers the opportunity to win free use of a new Ford car every month for the next year.

You could be parking 12 different cars in your driveway, working your way through the Ford range from the sporty Probe, pictured right, and the breezy Escort cabriolet to the spacious seven-seater Galaxy.

Each car can be driven for up to a month and customer service from Hertz, the world's largest car rental company, will guarantee trouble-free motoring. To enter the contest, send your answers to this week's questions and those which will appear next week on a postcard to:
30 Bouverie Street, London, EC8S 4NG. Entries must be received by February 6, 1995. Normal Times Newspapers competition rules apply

Weekend discount offer

For all readers, Hertz is offering a special discount of up to 22 per cent on weekend rental rates. To qualify, you must book in advance and present the voucher below when you collect your car.

The offer covers rentals from noon on Fridays to 9am on Mondays until March 27, 1995. Rates include unlimited mileage, loss damage waiver, theft protection and VAT. You must collect and return the car at the same Hertz office, be over 25 and have a full, clean UK driving licence.

The discount offer is subject to availability. To book, phone 0345-555888, *mention The Times* and quote the code PC67513. You must remember to take the voucher when you collect the car.

This week's questions:

1) In which year did Karl Benz create the first motor car by fitting a petrol engine to a three-wheel carriage?
2) In what year did the British government pass a law which forced drivers to follow a man who held a red flag?

RENTAL GROUP/ MAKE OF CAR	*THE TIMES CAR 95 PRICE*	NORMAL PRICE
Group R, eg Fiat Cinquecento	***£48.00***	n/a
Group A, eg Fiat Uno	***£51.00***	£58.00
Group B, eg Ford Fiesta	***£55.00***	£65.00
Group C, eg Ford Escort 1.6LX	***£60.00***	£74.00
Group D, eg Ford Mondeo 1.6LX	***£65.00***	£84.00

THE TIMES

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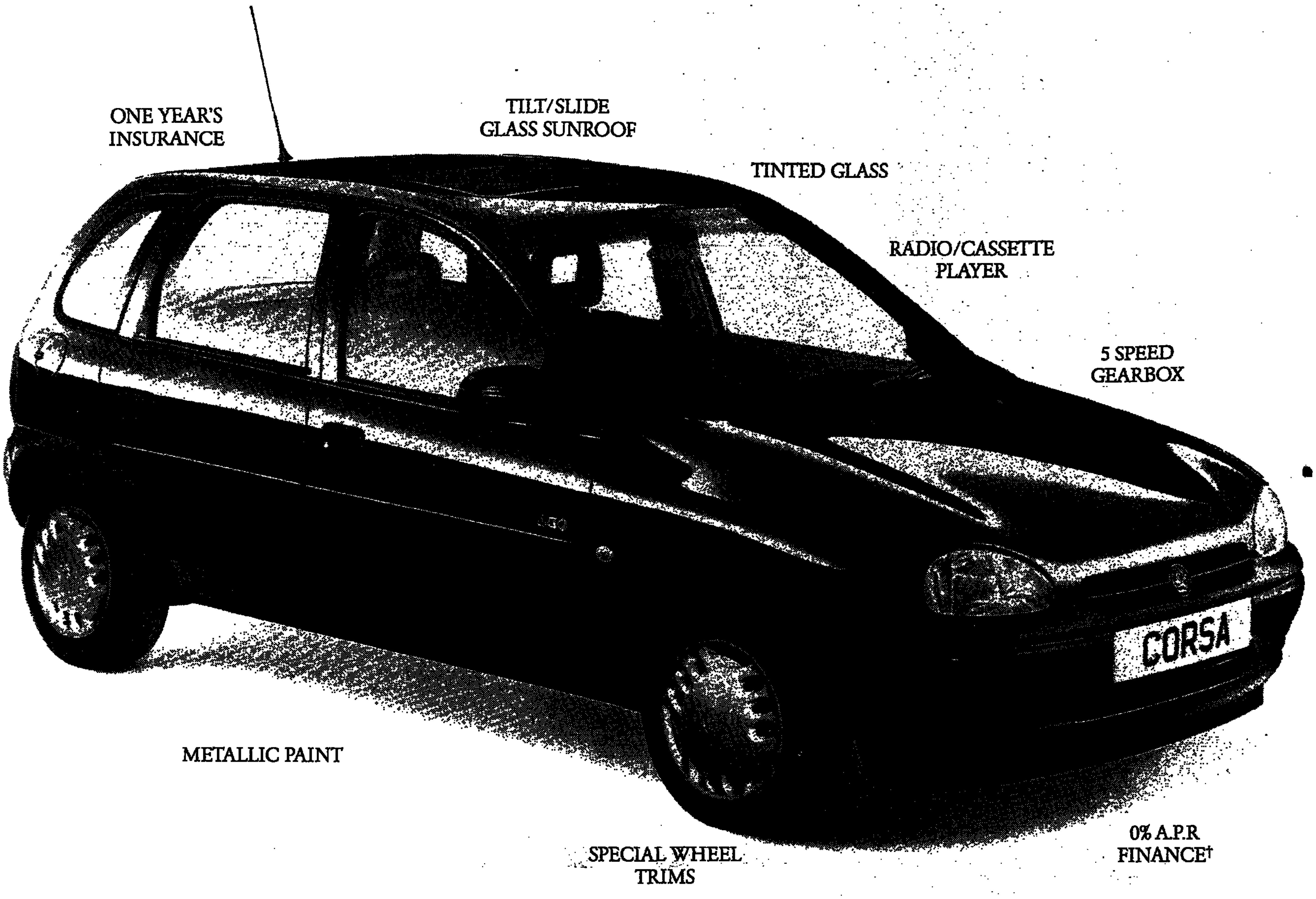

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